
Program Specific Visions, Strategies, and Guidances

(Strategies and Guidances marked with an asterisk () are considered core, and the Regional Administrator must consult with the Assistant Administrator for Water before agreeing to a work plan with a State that differs significantly from these asterisked Guidances and Strategies.)*

(Strategies and Guidances appearing for the first time in this update are marked with a ☆.)

Section 3

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Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water

I. Vision

The fundamental mission of the National Drinking Water Program is to protect public health by ensuring safe drinking water for all Americans. The framework within which the EPA strives to achieve this mission is the “multiple barrier approach.” Under this approach, in FY 2002-2003, EPA, its partners - - States and Tribes - - and stakeholders (public health and environmental organizations, utilities, communities, and the public) will continue to engage in a comprehensive set of activities to protect the public from contaminants in drinking water. These activities cover the entire process for providing safe drinking water to Americans, from protecting water at the source to ensuring consumer confidence in the safety of the water flowing from the tap.

The multiple barrier approach comprises several strategic components that allow EPA, partners, and stakeholders to achieve our mission as effectively and efficiently as possible. These include:

- protecting drinking water sources from contamination through conducting source water assessments, protecting wellhead areas and sole source aquifers, and ensuring that disposal of waste through underground injection does not contaminate drinking water sources
- setting national health-based “primary” standards based on sound science and health risk information, and periodically evaluating the effectiveness of these standards in protecting public health
- ensuring that states and tribes have sufficient financial, managerial and technical capacity to implement safe drinking water programs through regulatory guidance, grants and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF). Funding from loans and set-asides allows states and water systems to upgrade water infrastructure, and DWSRF set-asides allow states to target program areas in need of additional support
- providing continual training and technical assistance to water system operators to maintain their ability to implement existing and new regulations effectively
- monitoring source water and drinking water to ensure compliance with national standards, and
- providing citizens with annual reports on drinking water quality, and notifying them when drinking water emergencies occur. At the same time, EPA and its partners understand that public participation in the implementation of drinking water programs adds value and helps us serve the public more efficiently and effectively.

Another vital component of the multiple barrier approach is better coordination of the Safe Drinking Water Act and Clean Water Act programs. In 2002-2003, EPA will work with States and Tribes to explore innovative ways to utilize the programs and funding offered by both federal statutes to protect sources (ground and surface) of drinking water from contamination.

II. Key Strategies

Comprehensive Drinking Water Research Strategy/National Drinking Water Research Agenda
(Final: December 2001)

Applicability: Drinking Water Community

Contact: Maggie Javdan, 202-260-9862, javdan.maggie@epa.gov

Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water Information Strategy

Applicability: Headquarters, Regions, States, public water systems

Contact: Chuck Job, 202-260-7084, job.charles@epa.gov

Copies Available: www.epa.gov/safewater

Source Water Contamination Prevention National Strategy

Applicability: Headquarters, Regions, States, local governments, public water systems

Contact: Joan Harrigan-Farrelly, 202-260-6672 , farrelly.joan@epa.gov

Copies Available: www.epa.gov/safewater

III. Key Grant Guidances

* *Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Program Guidelines* (1997)

Section 1452 of the 1996 Amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act authorize the Agency to award DWSRF capitalization grants to states, which in turn can provide low-cost loans and other types of assistance to eligible systems.

Applicability: Regions, states

Contact: Veronica Blette; 202-260-3980; blatte.veronica@epa.gov

Copies Available: Order from the Water Resource Center by calling (202) 260-7786 or E-Mail: center.water-resource@epa.gov

Web Address: www.epa.gov/OGWDW/docs/guidtoc.html

IV. Rules and Guidances Issued in the Last Year (May 2000-May 2001) (By Major Activity)

Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)

**Federal Register Notice on Changes in Allotments for DWSRF* (May 2001)

Applicability: Regions, States

Contact: Veronica Blette; 202-260-3980; bllette.veronica@epa.gov

Copies Available: no

Web Address: www.epa.gov/safewater/dwsrf.html

* *DWSRF Regulations: Final Rule* (August 2000)

Applicability: Regions, states, drinking water systems

Contact: Kimberley Roy; 202-260-2794; kimberley.roy@epa.gov

Copies Available: internet

Web Address: www.epa.gov/safewater/dwsrf.html

Filter Backwash Recycling Rule

Filter Backwash Recycling Rule: Final Rule (May 2001)

Applicability: States, conventional and direct filtration public water systems that practice recycling

Contact: Jeff Robichaud; 202-260-2568; robichaud.jeff@epa.gov

Filter Backwash Recycling Rule: Quick Start Guide (May 2001)

Applicability: States, public water systems

Contact: Jeffery Robichaud, 202-260-2568, robichaud.jeff@epa.gov

Public Notification Rule

Public Notification Rule: Draft Implementation Guidance and Handbook (July 2000)

Applicability: Regions, states, drinking water systems

Contact: Kathy Williams, 202-260-2759, williams.kathy@epa.gov

Copies: [www.epa.gov/safewater/public notification](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/public_notification)

Lead and Copper Rule Revisions

Lead and Copper Rule Revisions: Technical Guidance and Compliance Guidance (April 2000)

Applicability: Regions, States, public water systems

Contact: Ron Bergman, 202-260-6187, bergman.ron@epa.gov ; Ed Thomas, 202-260-0910, thomas.edwin@epa.gov

Copies Available: internet

Web Address: www.epa.gov/safewater/lcrmr/implement

Interim Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule/Stage 1 Disinfectants/Disinfection Byproducts Rules (IESWTR/Stage 1 DBP)

IESWTR/Stage 1 DBP Implementation Manual and Quick Reference Guide (May 2001)

Applicability: Regions, States, public water systems

Contact: Nicole Foley, 202-260-0875, foley.nicole@epa.gov ; Katie Leo, 202-260-0052, leo.katie@epa.gov

Copies Available: during comment period only

Web Address: comment period closed, final expected soon.

Radionuclides

Draft Implementation Guidance for Radionuclides and Quick Reference Guide (September 2000)

Applicability: Regions, states, public water systems

Contact: Ed Thomas; 202-260-0910; thomas.edwin@epa.gov

Copies Available: internet

Web Address: www.epa.gov/safewater/radionuclides/implement

Radionuclides Final Rule (November 2000)

Applicability: States, public water systems

Contact: Dave Huber; 202-260-9566, huber.david@epa.gov

Copies Available: Order from the Water Resource Center by calling (202) 260-7786 or E-mail: center.water-resource@epa.gov

Web Address: www.epa.gov/safewater

Notice of Data Availability for Radionuclides other than Radon (March 2000)

Applicability: States, public water systems

Contact: Bill Labiosa; 202-260-4835; labiosa@erols.com

Copies Available: Order from the Water Resource Center by calling (202) 260-7786 or E-mail: center.water-resource@epa.gov

Web Address: www.epa.gov/safewater

Radon

Draft Implementation Guidance for Radon (August 2001)

Applicability: Regions, States, and public water systems

Contact: Robert Jordan; 202-260-2328; jordan.robert@epa.gov

Copies Available: During comment period only

Web Address: Comment period closed. New draft will be available with final rule

Source Water Protection

National Association of Counties Source Water Protection Kit (May 2001)

Applicability: Regions, States, local governments, public water systems

Contact: Kevin McCormack, 202-260-7772, mccormack.kevin@epa.gov

Copies Available: May 2001

Web Address: www.naco.org

ICMA (International City/County Management Association) Source water Awareness Media Tool Kit (March 2001)

Applicability: Local governments, public water systems, states

Contact: Steve Ainsworth, 202-260-7769, ainsworth.steve@epa.gov

Copies Available: available on the internet

Web Address: www.lgean.org/html/_tooldetail.cfm

Underground Injection Control

State Implementation Guide (September 2000)

Applicability: Regions, States

Contact: Bruce Kobelski, 202-260-7275, kobelski.bruce@epa.gov, Howard Beard, 202-260-8796, beard.howard@epa.gov

Copies Available: no

Web Address: www.epa.gov/safewater/uic/c5imp.html

Class V, Phase II Initiative: Publish Proposed Class V Phase II Determination (April 2001)

Applicability: Regions, States, local governments

Contact: Joan Harrigan-Farrelly, 202-260-6672, farrelly.joan@epa.gov

Copies Available: upon request

Web Address: www.epa.gov/safewater/uic/c5imp.html

Conversion of a Motor Vehicle Waste Disposal Well - A UIC Director's Guide (November 2000)

Applicability: Regions, States

Contact: Bruce Kobelski, 202-260-7275, kobelski.bruce@epa.gov, Howard Beard, 202-260-8796, beard.howard@epa.gov

Copies Available: no

Web Address: www.epa.gov/safewater/uic/

Technical Assistance Document for Delineating "Other Sensitive Ground Water Areas"
(December 2000)

Applicability: Regions, States

Contact: Bruce Kobelski, 202-260-7275, kobelski.bruce@epa.gov

Copies Available: no

Web Address: www.epa.gov/safewater/uic/

Small Entity Compliance Guide: How the New Motor Vehicle Waste Disposal Well Rule Affects Your Business (December 2000)

Applicability: Regions, States

Contact: Bruce Kobelski, 202-260-7275, kobelski.bruce@epa.gov

Copies Available: no

Web Address: www.epa.gov/safewater/uic/

Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring List 2 Rule

**Revisions to the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule for Public Water Systems: Final Rule*
(January 2001)

Applicability: Regions, states, drinking water utilities

Contact: Charles Job, 202-260-7084, job.charles@epa.gov

Copies Available: Order from the Water Resource Center by calling (202) 260-7786 or E-Mail: center.water-resource@epa.gov

Web Address: www.epa.gov/safewater/standard/ucmr/

V. Rules and Guidances Issued/To Be Issued June 01 through FY 02 (By Major Activity)

Arsenic

Arsenic Rule: Final Rule (February 2002)

Applicability: States, public water systems

Contact: Irene Dooley, 202-260-9531, dooley.irene@epa.gov

CCL Regulatory Determinations

CCL Regulatory Determinations: Final Notice (August 2001)

Applicability: States, public water systems

Contact: Dan Olson, 202-260-6269, olson.daniel@epa.gov

Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)

Report to Congress on the Status of the DWSRF Program (est. February 2002)

Applicability: all drinking water stakeholders

Contact: Veronica Blette; 202-260-3980; blatte.veronica@epa.gov

Filter Backwash

Filter Backwash Recycling Rule: Technical Guidance (October 2001)

Applicability: States, public water systems, assistance providers

Contact: Jeffery Robichaud, 202-260-2568

Implementation Manual and Quick Reference Guide (late 2001)

Applicability: Regions, States, public water systems

Contact: Nicole Foley, 202-260-0875, foley.nicole@epa.gov ; Katie Leo, 202-260-0052, leo.katie@epa.gov

Ground Water Rule

Ground Water Rule: Final Rule (2002)

Applicability: States, public water systems using ground water

Contact: Eric Burneson; 202-260-1445; burneson.eric@epa.gov

Guidance Manual for Conducting Sanitary Surveys of Public Ground Water Systems (2002)

Applicability: Regions, states, public water systems

Contact: Eric Burneson; 202-260-1445; burneson.eric@epa.gov

Copies Available: Not currently available.

Web Address: Not currently available.

Guidance Manual for Conducting Hydrogeologic Sensitivity Assessments of Public Ground Water Supplies (2002)

Applicability: Regions, states, public water systems

Contact: Eric Burneson; 202-260-1445; burneson.eric@epa.gov

Copies Available: Not currently available.

Web Address: Not currently available.

Corrective Actions for Fecal Contamination in Public Ground Water Systems (2002)

Applicability: Regions, states, public water systems

Contact: Ken Rotert; 202-260-5748; rotert.kenneth@epa.gov

Copies Available: Not currently available.

Web Address: Not currently available.

Small Systems Compliance Guidance for the Ground Water Rule (2002)

Applicability: public water systems

Contact: Eric Burneson; 202-260-1445; burneson.eric@epa.gov

Copies Available: Not currently available.

Web Address: Not currently available.

Implementation Manual and Quick Reference Guide (2002)

Applicability: Regions, States, public water systems

Contact: Nicole Foley, 202-260-0875, foley.nicole@epa.gov ; Katie Leo, 202-260-0052, leo.katie@epa.gov

Hydraulic Fracturing

Study of Hydraulic Fracturing of Coalbed Methane Wells: Final Report (February 2002)

Applicability: Regions, States, oil and gas industry

Contact: Leslie Cronkhite, 202-260-0713, cronkhite.leslie@epa.gov, Bruce Kobelski, 202-260-7275, kobelski.bruce@epa.gov

Long Term 1 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule

Long Term 1 Rule: Final Rule (Summer 2001)

Applicability: States, public water systems using surface water, serving fewer than 10,000 persons

Contact: Jeff Robichaud; 202-260-2568; robichaud.jeff@epa.gov

Long Term 1 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule: Quick Start Guide (August 2001)

Applicability: States, public water systems

Contact: Jeffery Robichaud, 202-260-2568; robichaud.jeff@epa.gov

Long Term 1 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule Technical Guidance: Filtration & Turbidity(September 2001)

Applicability: States, public water systems, assistance providers

Contact: Jeffery Robichaud, 202-260-2568; robichaud.jeff@epa.gov

Long Term 1 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule Technical Guidance: Disinfection Profiling (September 2001)

Applicability: States, public water systems, assistance providers

Contact: Jeffery Robichaud, 202-260-2568; robichaud.jeff@epa.gov

Individual Filter Self Assessment How-to Video (October 2001)

Applicability: States, public water systems, assistance providers

Contact: Jeffery Robichaud, 202-260-2568; robichaud.jeff@epa.gov

Disinfection Profiling How-to Video (October 2001)

Applicability: c0 TD 0.0011 Tc 0 obichaud.jeff@epa.gov

Contact:

Contact: Crystal Rodgers, 202-260-0676, rodgers.crystal@epa.gov

Federal Register Notice: Laboratory Evaluation and Approval (July 2001)

Applicability: Public water systems using surface water, laboratories, states

Contact: Crystal Rodgers, 202-260-0676, rodgers.crystal@epa.gov

Implementation Manual and Quick Reference Guide (2002)

Applicability: Regions, States, public water systems

Contact: Nicole Foley, 202-260-0875, foley.nicole@epa.gov ; Katie Leo, 202-260-0052, leo.katie@epa.gov

MTBE

National Secondary Drinking Water Regulation for MTBE: Proposed Rule (Fall 2001)

Applicability: States, public water systems

Contact: James Taft, 202-260-5519, taft.james@epa.gov

Implementation Manual and Quick Reference Guide (2002)

Applicability: Regions, States, public water systems

Contact: Ron Bergman, 202-260-6187, bergman.ron@epa.gov ; Ed Thomas, 202-260-0910, thomas.edwin@epa.gov

Public Water Systems, Especially Small Systems

Technical and Financial Assistance for Small Systems (August 2001)

Applicability: Regions, States, public water systems

Contact: Peter Shanaghan, 202-260-5813, shagnahan.peter@epa.gov

Copies Available: Internet after August 2001

Web Address: www.epa.gov/safewater/utilities/tfassistance.html

SDWA Regulation Overview for Water Systems (June 2001)

Applicability: Regions, States, public water systems

Contact: Peter Shanaghan, 202-260-5813, shanaghan.peter@epa.gov

Copies Available: Internet after June 2001

Web Address: www.epa.gov/safewater/utilities/sdwaoverview.html

Radon

National Primary Drinking Water Regulation for Radon: Revisions to Final Rule (July 2001)

Applicability:

Contact: Mariana Cubeddu-Negro, 202-260-5746, negro.mariana@epa.gov

Implementation Manual and Quick Reference Guide (after revisions in July 2001)

Applicability: Regions, States, public water systems

Contact: Ron Bergman, 202-260-6187, bergman.ron@epa.gov ; Ed Thomas, 202-260-0910, thomas.edwin@epa.gov

Six-Year Review of National Primary Drinking Water Regulations

First Notice of 6-Year Review of National Primary Drinking Water Regulations: Propose in Federal Register (October 2001)

Applicability: States, public water systems

Contact: Judy Lebowich, 202-260-7595, lebowich.judy@epa.gov ; Wynne Miller, 202-260-0259, miller.wynne@epa.gov

Final Notice of 6-Year Review of National Primary Drinking Water Regulations: Publish in Federal Register (August 2002)

Applicability:

Contact: Judy Lebowich, 202-260-7595, lebowich.judy@epa.gov ; Wynne Miller, 202-260-0259, miller.wynne@epa.gov

Source Water Protection

Source Water Protection Pocket Guide (June 2001)

Applicability: Regions, States, local governments, public water systems

Contact: Kevin McCormack, 202-260-7772, mccormack.kevin@epa.gov; Steve Potts, 202-260-5015, potts.steve@epa.gov

Resource List for the Web (June 2001)

Applicability: All drinking water stakeholders

Contact: Beth Hall, 202-260-5553, hall.beth@epa.gov

Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule

Stage 2 D/DBP: Final Rule (May 2002)

Applicability: States, public water systems

Contact: Jennifer McClain, 202-260-0431, mcclain.jennifer@epa.gov

Stage 2 DBPR Distribution System Guidance Manual (May 2002)

Applicability: States, public water systems

Contact: Jennifer McLain, 202-260-0431

Small Systems Guidance Manual (May 2002)

Applicability: States, public water systems

Contact: Jennifer McLain, 202-260-0431

Consecutive Systems Guidance Manual (May 2002)

Applicability: States, public water systems

Contact: Thomas Grubbs, 202-260-7270

Implementation Manual and Quick Reference Guide (2002)

Applicability: Regions, States, public water systems

Contact: Nicole Foley, 202-260-0875, foley.nicole@epa.gov ; Katie Leo, 202-260-0052, leo.katie@epa.gov

Underground Injection Control

**Class I UIC Rule: Final Regulatory Revision for Florida (March 2002)*

Applicability: Region 4, State of Florida

Contact: Howard Beard, 202-260-8796, beard.howard@epa.gov

Wastewater Management Risk Analysis in Support of Class I UIC Regulation Revision for Florida: Report to Congress (February 2002)

Applicability: EPA Region 4, State of Florida

Contact: Howard Beard, 202-260-8796, beard.howard@epa.gov

Class V, Phase II Initiative

**Class V, Phase II Initiative: Final Determination (May 2002)*

Applicability: Headquarters, Regions, States

Contact: Robin Delehanty, 202-260-1993, delehanty.robin@epa.gov, Lee Whitehurst, 202-260-5532, whitehurst.lee@epa.gov

OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

I. Vision

The role of the Office of Science and Technology (OST) is to set national water quality baselines reflecting current science and the best pollution control technologies, and provide tools, guidance and training to help State, Tribal and local watershed managers protect human health and maintain and improve the chemical, physical and biological integrity of our waters. These tools and guidances help environmental managers implement Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act programs.

The Office's priorities include strengthening and modernizing the basic structure of the water quality criteria and standards program. We will work with states and tribes to improve processes for developing and adopting water quality standards. We will work with states to establish mutually-accepted commitments and schedules to conduct triennial reviews of water quality standards within the three-year review cycle required by the Clean Water Act. We will also work with states and tribes to reduce and eventually eliminate the backlog of water quality standards actions. By expanding the suite of ecological and human health criteria and working with states and tribes to adopt the appropriate criteria, we will strengthen the program's scientific base for managing water resources on an integrated, watershed basis. Applying strong water quality standards and implementation procedures on a watershed basis should result in reduced exposure to microbial and other contaminants in recreational waters, reduced consumption of contaminated fish and shellfish, and reduced stress on aquatic communities. We will also work with our stakeholders to select and develop technology based effluent regulations that will reduce the discharge of toxic pollutants from industrial sources and also reduce harmful discharges from feedlots and urban storm water.

One of the highest priorities of the drinking water program is to protect the public health of all Americans by ensuring that the water is safe to drink. It is critical that the program sets drinking water regulations based on good science and data and sound risk assessment. We will continue to provide scientific support for these regulations, including risk assessments for contaminant selection and regulation.

II. Key Strategies

The National Strategy for the Development of Regional Nutrient Criteria, published in the *Federal Register* on June 25, 1998

The Strategy describes the approach the Agency is taking to develop scientific information relating to nutrient over enrichment of the Nation's waters and to work with the States and Tribes to assure that State water quality standards reflect this nutrient information. This information includes waterbody-type guidance and ecoregionally derived nutrient criteria. Once guidance and ecoregional criteria are published, the Agency will assist states and tribes in adopting numerical nutrient criteria into water quality standards by the end of 2003. National default ecoregional nutrient criteria will

be published by the Agency for four types of water bodies across 14 ecoregions starting in 2000, where data are available. Where a state does not amend its water quality standards to include water quality criteria for nutrients, EPA's Office of Water will recommend to the Administrator that she act under Section 303© of the Clean Water Act. This action will assure that the protective criteria for nutrients apply in all states no later than 3 years after the National default criteria are published.

Applicability: Regions, States, and Tribes

Contact: Robert Cantilli, 202-260-5546, Cantilli.Robert@epa.gov

Copies Available: Contact Robert Cantilli

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-WATER/1998/June/Day-25/w16941.htm>

EPA Plan For Beaches and Recreational Waters. EPA/600/R-98/079.

The "Beach Plan" is a multi-year strategy for reducing the risks of infection to users of recreational water through improved recreational water quality programs, risk communication, and scientific advances. The plan promotes consistent management of recreational water quality programs and improves the science that supports water monitoring programs. To support these objectives, EPA will identify needs and deficiencies in recreational water programs, assist states/Tribes in strengthening their recreational water quality standards, and work with local managers in their transition to the recommended criteria. We will issue guidance on managing risk and using Agency-developed monitoring methods and indicators at recreational waters. Improving the science that supports recreational water monitoring programs includes research into rapid analytical methods and better indicators of enteric pathogens, evaluation of modeling and monitoring tools, and research on exposure and health effects. The transition to E. Coli and enterococci indicators will be a priority for the triennial reviews of water quality standards that will occur in FY 2000-02. Beginning with FY 2000, EPA Headquarters and Regional offices will develop management agreements that will include commitments to have states and tribes adopt the Ambient Water Quality Criteria for Bacteria-1986. Where a state does not amend its water quality standards to include the 1986 criteria or criteria and standards that are as protective of human health as EPA criteria, EPA will act under Section 303 © of the Clean Water Act and pursuant to the requirements of the Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health Act of 2000, to promulgate the criteria with the goal of assuring the 1986 criteria apply in all states not later than April 2004.

Applicability: Headquarters, Regions, States, Tribes and local communities

Contact: William F. (Rick) Hoffmann, 202-260-0642, Hoffmann.Rick@epa.gov

Copies Available: With the title and document number from National Service Center for Environmental Publications (NSCEP) (1-800-490-9198)

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/OST/BEACH Watch>

III. Key Grant Guidance

★ New-Federal Register Notice of Availability of Grants for Development of Coastal Recreation Water Monitoring and Public Notification Under the Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health Act

The Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health Act (BEACH Act) signed into law on October 10, 2000, amends the Clean Water Act (CWA) to reduce the risk of disease to users of the

Nation's recreational waters. The BEACH Act authorizes the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to award program development and implementation grants to eligible States, Territories, Tribes and local governments to support microbiological testing and monitoring of coastal recreation waters, including the Great Lakes, that are adjacent to beaches or similar points of access used by the public. BEACH Act grants also provide support for development and implementation of programs to notify the public of the risk of exposure to disease-causing microorganisms in coastal recreation waters. This Federal Register notice announces the availability of grants to develop comprehensive coastal recreation water monitoring and public notification programs and provides grant application procedures. Indian tribes will not be able to apply for these grants until EPA develops a rule that will establish procedures so that Tribes may be treated in the same manner as a state for purposes of this program. EPA is currently developing this rule.

Applicability: Regions, States and Tribes

Contact: Charles Kovatch, 202-260-3754, Kovatch.Charles@epa.gov

Copies Available: FR Notice is expected to be published in May, 2001

*** ☆ *New-National Beach Guidance and Grant Performance Criteria for Recreational Waters***

This document will be used by potential grant recipients (identified in the Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health Act of 2000) to adopt criteria for pathogens and pathogen indicators, to implement effective programs for the monitoring and assessment of coastal recreation waters adjacent to beaches or similar points of access used by the public, and to provide for prompt public notification of any exceedance of or likelihood of exceedance of applicable water quality standards in coastal recreation waters. This document also establishes performance criteria which EPA will use to evaluate potential grant recipients' programs.

Applicability: Regions, States and Tribes

Contact: William F. (Rick) Hoffmann, 202-260-0642, Hoffmann.Rick@epa.gov

Copies Available: Document is expected to be published in October 2001

IV. Key Programmatic Guidances (those issued in the last year are noted new)

Permit Guidance Document for Pulp, Paper, and Paperboard Manufacturing Point Source Category EPA-821-B-00-003

This permit guidance document for bleached papergrade kraft and soda and papergrade sulfite facilities is intended to assist permit writers and pretreatment control authorities in issuing NPDES permits and individual control mechanisms for facilities subject to the effluent limitations guidelines and standards established as part of the Cluster Rules promulgated April 15, 1998. The document discusses permitting issues such as in-process compliance points, compliance deadlines, production definitions, mandatory Best Management Practices (BMPs), and the Voluntary Advanced Technology Incentives Program (VATIP).

Applicability: Industry, Regions, States and Local Governments

Contact: Mark Perez, 202-260-7175, perez.mark@epa.gov

Copies Available: Contact Mark Perez

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/ost/pulppaper/permitguide/>

Permit Guidance Document for the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Point Source Category (40 CFR Part 439)

This document is intended to assist permit writers and pretreatment control authorities in issuing NPDES permits and individual control mechanisms for facilities subject to the revised pharmaceutical manufacturing effluent limitations guidelines and standards promulgated September 21, 1998.

Applicability: Industry, Regions, States and Local Governments

Contact: Frank Hund, 202-260-7182, hund.frank@epa.gov

Copies Available: Not yet available in final; expected Summer 2001

Web Address: Not yet available, but will be posted on OST's website.

★ New - Method Guidance and Recommendations for Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Testing (40 CFR Part 136). EPA-821-B-00-004.

This guidance document provides additional clarification of whole effluent toxicity (WET) test methods that are approved at 40 CFR part 136 for use in monitoring under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting program. This document is designed to assist EPA Regional, State, and local authorities; regulated entities; and environmental laboratories by providing guidance on the conduct of WET tests and interpretation of WET test results. Specific technical guidance is provided on nominal error rate adjustments, confidence intervals, concentration-response relationships, dilution series, and dilution waters.

Applicability: Regions, States, Tribes, Industry, and Testing Laboratories

Contact: Marion Kelly, 202-260-7117, kelly.marion@epa.gov

Copies Available: Contact Marion Kelly

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/OST/WET/guide>

★ New - Guidance for Implementation and Use of EPA Method 1631 for the Determination of Low-Level Mercury (40 CFR part 136) EPA-821-R-01-023

This document is intended to provide assistance to the analytical community, permit writers, States, Tribes, and the regulated community in the application and use of EPA Method 1631 for the determination of mercury in ambient water and for monitoring requirements established when issuing NPDES permits. The document discusses the use of clean sampling techniques to prevent contamination when measuring low levels of mercury, known matrix interferences and what to do to overcome these matrix interferences, and flexibility to make certain changes to the method. Additionally, the document provides responses to frequently asked questions on quality control and other analytical issues.

Applicability: Industry, Regions, States, Tribes, Local Governments, and Analytical Laboratories

Contact: Maria Gomez-Taylor, 202-260-1639, gomez-taylor.maria@epa.gov

Copies Available: Contact Maria Gomez-Taylor

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/ost/methods/1631.html>

★ New - Permit Guidance Document: Transportation Equipment and Cleaning Point Source Category EPA-821-R-01-021

This document is intended to assist permit writers and pretreatment control authorities in issuing

NPDES permits and individual control mechanisms for facilities subject to the effluent limitations and standards that EPA promulgated on August 14, 2000, for Transportation Equipment and Cleaning Point Source Category.

Applicability: Industry, Regions, States and Local Governments

Contact: John Tinger, 202 260-4992, tinger.john@epa.gov

Copies Available: Contact John Tinger

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/ost/guide/teci/>

* ***National Coordination of EPA's Water Quality Standards Actions.*** Geoffrey H. Grubbs, Memorandum to Water Management Division Directors, May 9, 2000. This memorandum sets forth a process to achieve an increased level of coordination and communication to provide consistent, defensible, and appropriately protective EPA decisions on water quality standards. The memorandum includes attached *Guidelines for National Coordination of EPA's Water Quality Standards Actions*, which outline a process for Headquarters and Regions to follow in water quality standards reviews, approvals/disapprovals, and promulgations.

Applicability: Headquarters, Regions

Contact: Fred Leutner, 202-260-1542, leutner.fred@epa.gov

Copies Available: From the Office of Science and Technology

Web Address: None (since this is internal EPA guidance)

* ***1999 Update of Ambient Water Quality Criteria for Ammonia***, Notice of Availability, 64 FR 71973, and criteria document, EPA-822-R-99-014, December 22, 1999. Contains EPA's recommended ammonia criteria for the protection of freshwater aquatic life. These criteria are EPA's recommendations for states, territories, and authorized tribes to use as guidance in adopting water quality standards. The 1999 Update incorporates revisions made in response to comment on the 1998 Update and supercedes all previous freshwater ammonia criteria. The adoption of numeric criteria for ammonia will be a priority for the triennial reviews of water quality standards that will occur in FY 2001-2003. Beginning with FY 2001, EPA Headquarters and Regional offices will develop management agreements that will include commitments to have states and tribes adopt numeric criteria for ammonia. Where a state does not amend its water quality standards to include water quality criteria for ammonia that will ensure protection of designated uses, EPA's Office of Water will recommend to the Administrator that she act under Section 303© of the Clean Water Act to promulgate numeric criteria with the goal of assuring that the protective criteria for ammonia apply in all states not later than 2004.

Applicability: Headquarters, Regions, States and Tribes

Contact: Brian Thompson, 202-260-3809, thompson.brian@epa.gov

Copies Available: With title and document number from National Service Center for Environmental Publications (NSCEP) (1-800-490-9198)

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/ost/>

* ☆ ***NEW- Methodology for Deriving Ambient Water Quality Criteria for the Protection of Human Health (2000).*** (EPA-822-B-00-004) was published in October 2000.

This is the first revision of the methodology since 1980. The revised methodology provides EPA

and the States a more sound scientific basis for developing new or revised ambient water quality criteria to protect human health. The methodology incorporates the latest science in important areas such as fish consumption, bioaccumulation and cancer risk.

Applicability: States and Tribes

Contact: Denis Borum, 202-260-8996, Borum.Denis@epa.gov

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/ost/humanhealth/method/index.html>

* ☆ **NEW- Methodology for Deriving Ambient Water Quality Criteria for the Protection of Human Health (2000):** Technical Support Document Volume 1: Risk Assessment. (EPA-822-B-00-005) was published in October 2000.

The TSD provides detailed information on how to evaluate data when conducting a risk assessment of a particular chemical for the protection of human health. An Exposure TSD and Bioaccumulation TSD will be prepared in the near future.

Applicability: States and Tribes

Contact: Denis Borum, 202-260-8996, Borum.Denis@epa.gov

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/ost/humanhealth/method/index.html>

* **National Recommended Water Quality Criteria**

A compilation of recommended water quality criteria for approximately 150 pollutants to protect human health and aquatic life.

Applicability: States and Tribes

Contact: Cindy Roberts, 202-260-2787, roberts.cindy@epa.gov

Copies Available: Contact Cindy Roberts

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/OST/standards/wqcriteria.pdf>

☆ **NEW - Streamlined Water-Effect Ratio Procedure for Discharges of Copper** (EPA-822-R-01-005) was completed March 2001.

The guidance is intended to add to and complement the 1994 Interim Guidance on Determination and Use of Water-Effect Ratios for Metals (EPA-823-B-94-001). Whereas the 1994 Interim Procedure applies to essentially all situations for most metals, the Streamlined Procedure is recommended only for situations where copper concentrations are elevated primarily by continuous point source effluents. The entity conducting the study may choose between using the Interim Procedure or using the Streamlined Procedure.

Applicability: Regions, States, Tribes

Contact: Charles Delos, 202-260-7039, delos.charles@epa.gov

Copies Available: Contact Charles Delos

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/standards>

* ☆ **NEW - 2001 Update of Ambient Water Quality Criteria for Cadmium EPA 822-R-01-001. Published April 2001.**

The 2001 update document incorporates new data, identified by a recent literature review, into the data base utilized to develop previous aquatic life criteria for cadmium. The new freshwater dissolved criterion continuous concentration (CCC or “chronic criterion”) for cadmium is 0.15 ug/L,

at a hardness of 50 mg/L. This criterion is more stringent than EPA's previous freshwater dissolved criterion continuous concentration of 2.2 ug/L, at a hardness of 50 mg/L.

Applicability: Regions, States, Tribes

Contact: Cindy Roberts, 202-260-2787, roberts.cindy@epa.gov

Copies Available: Contact Cindy Roberts

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/criteria/aqualife/cadmium/>

★ ***NEW - Draft Technical Basis for the Derivation of Equilibrium Partitioning Sediment Guidelines (ESG's) for the Protection of Benthic Organisms: Nonionic Organics.*** March 2000. Contains the science and analysis used to establish the technical basis of the Draft ESGs. The draft guidance explains equilibrium partitioning theory and its relationship to the bioavailability of chemicals to benthic organisms.

Applicability: Regions, States and Tribes

Contact: Heidi Bell, 202-260-5464, bell.heidi@epa.gov

Copies Available: Contact Heidi Bell

★ ***NEW - Draft Methods for the Derivation of Site-Specific Equilibrium Partitioning Sediment Guidelines (ESGs) for the Protection of Benthic Organisms: Nonionic Organics.*** March 2000. Contains the science and analysis used to adjust national ESGs to reflect site-specific conditions. Recommended for use when the species at a site are more or less sensitive than those used in the tests to derive the guidelines or when the chemical or physical attributes of a site are particularly unique.

Applicability: Regions, States and Tribes

Contact: Heidi Bell, 202-260-5464, bell.heidi@epa.gov

Copies Available: Contact Heidi Bell

★ ***NEW - Draft Equilibrium Partitioning Sediment Guidelines (ESGs) for the Protection of Benthic Organisms: Dieldrin.*** March 2000.

Contains the science and analysis used to derive a draft national ESG for dieldrin. The draft ESG provides scientific information to Regions, States, and Tribes when assessing sediments for contamination and when determining the best approach to protect benthic organisms from sediment contamination.

Applicability: Regions, States and Tribes

Contact: Heidi Bell, 202-260-5464, bell.heidi@epa.gov

Copies Available: Contact Heidi Bell

★ ***NEW - Draft Equilibrium Partitioning Sediment Guidelines (ESGs) for the Protection of Benthic Organisms: Endrin.*** March 2000.

Contains the science and analysis used to derive a draft national ESG for endrin. The draft ESG provides scientific information to Regions, States, and Tribes when assessing sediments for contamination and when determining the best approach to protect benthic organisms from sediment contamination.

Applicability: Regions, States and Tribes

Contact: Heidi Bell, 202-260-5464, bell.heidi@epa.gov

Copies Available: Contact Heidi Bell

★ **NEW - Draft Equilibrium Partitioning Sediment Guidelines (ESGs) for the Protection of Benthic Organisms: Metals Mixtures (Cadmium, Copper, Lead, Nickel, Silver, Zinc).** March 2000.

Contains the science and analysis used to derive a draft national ESG for metals mixtures. The draft ESG provides scientific information to Regions, States, and Tribes when assessing sediments for contamination and when determining the best approach to protect benthic organisms from sediment contamination.

Applicability: Regions, States and Tribes

Contact: Heidi Bell, 202-260-5464, bell.heidi@epa.gov

Copies Available: Contact Heidi Bell

★ **NEW - Draft Equilibrium Partitioning Sediment Guidelines (ESGs) for the Protection of Benthic Organisms: PAH Mixtures.** March 2000.

Contains the science and analysis used to derive a draft national ESG for PAH mixtures. The draft ESG provides scientific information to Regions, States, and Tribes when assessing sediments for contamination and when determining the best approach to protect benthic organisms from sediment contamination.

Applicability: Regions, States and Tribes

Contact: Heidi Bell, 202-260-5464, bell.heidi@epa.gov

Copies Available: Contact Heidi Bell

★ **NEW - Draft Equilibrium Partitioning Sediment Guidelines (ESGs) for the Protection of Benthic Organisms: Nonionic Organics Compendium.** March 2000.

Contains the science and analysis used to derive national tier II ESGs for 32 nonionic organic chemicals. The draft ESG provides scientific information to Regions, States, and Tribes when assessing sediments for contamination and when determining the best approach to protect benthic organisms from sediment contamination.

Applicability: Regions, States and Tribes

Contact: Scott Ireland, 202-260-6091, ireland.scott@epa.gov

Copies Available: Contact Scott Ireland

★ **NEW – Ambient Water Quality Criteria for Dissolved Oxygen** (Salt Water: Cape Cod to Cape Hatteras). EPA 822-R-00-012. Published November 2000.

The guidance document provides EPA recommended ambient water quality criteria for protection of aquatic life in marine waters from Cape Cod to Cape Hatteras. Criteria can also be applied to other waters where same species are present or site specific data is available.

Applicability: States and Tribes

Contact: Erik Winchester, 202-260-6107, winchester.erik@epa.gov

Copies Available: Contact Erik Winchester

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/standards>

Drinking Water Advisory: Consumer Acceptability Advice and Health Effects Analysis on MTBE

Developed to support the immediate needs for information by state and local drinking water facilities and public health personnel on MTBE contamination of potable water.

Applicability: Regions, States and Tribes

Contact: Diana Wong, 202-260-7838, Wong.DianaM@epa.gov

Copies Available: Contact Diana Wong

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/OST/Tools/MtBEaa.pdf>

★ ***NEW- Stressor Identification Guidance Document*** (EPA-822-B-00-025). Published December 2000. This technical guidance document is designed to assist water quality managers in identifying unknown causes of biological impairments in water bodies through a logical, scientific eco-risk assessment process.

Applicability: Regions, States, Tribes and other stakeholders.

Contact: William Swietlik, 202-260-9569, swietlik.william@epa.gov

Copies Available: From Office of Water Resource Center 202-260-7786, or by email to center.water-resource@epa.gov

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/ost/biocriteria/stressors/stressorid.html>

★ ***NEW- Estuarine and Near Coastal Marine Waters: Bioassessment and Biocriteria Technical Guidance*** (EPA 822-B-00-024). Published December 2000. This technical guidance document provides an extensive collection of methods and protocols for conducting bioassessments in estuarine and coastal marine waters and the procedures for deriving biocriteria from the results.

Applicability: Regions, States and Tribes

Contact: William Swietlik, 202-260-9569, swietlik.william@epa.gov

Copies Available: From Office of Water Resource Center 202-260-7786, or by email to center.water-resource@epa.gov.

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/ost/biocriteria/States/estuaries/estuaries1.html>

Biological Criteria Technical Guidance Document for Streams and Small Rivers, published 1996
Published to provide States and Tribes information that can be used to perform biological assessments and develop biological criteria that support water quality decisions for streams and small rivers.

Applicability: Regions, States and Tribes

Contact: Susan Jackson, 202-260-1800, jackson.susank@epa.gov

Copies Available: Contact Susan Jackson

Web Address: http://www.epa.gov/ceisweb1/ceishome/atlas/bioindicators/tech_guidance.html

Biological Criteria Technical Guidance Document for Lakes and Reservoirs, published 1998
Published to provide States and Tribes information that can be used to perform biological assessments and develop biological criteria that support water quality decisions for lakes and reservoirs.

Applicability: Regions, States and Tribes

Contact: William Swietlik, 202-260-9569, swietlik.william@epa.gov

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/monitoring/tech/lakes.html>

★ **NEW - Nutrient Criteria Technical Guidance Manual: Lakes and Reservoirs** EPA-822-B00-001 published in 2000. This technical guidance manual provides methods for assessing the nutrient status of a lake or reservoir and presents a process for developing ecoregional nutrient criteria.

Applicability: Regions, States, Tribes

Contact: Bob Cantilli, 202-260-5546, cantilli.robert@epa.gov

Web address: <http://www.epa.gov/ost/standards/nutrient.html>

★ **NEW - Nutrient Criteria Technical Guidance Manual: Rivers and Streams** EPA-822-B00-002 published in 2000. This technical guidance manual provides methods for assessing the nutrient status of a rivers and streams and presents a process for developing ecoregional nutrient criteria.

Applicability: Regions, States, Tribes

Contact: Bob Cantilli, 202-260-5546, cantilli.robert@epa.gov

Web address: <http://www.epa.gov/ost/standards/nutrient.html>

★ **NEW - Ambient Water Quality Criteria Recommendations: Information Supporting the Development of State and Tribal Nutrient Criteria** published in 2000. This set of 17 ecoregional nutrient criteria documents presents EPA recommended criteria for total phosphorus and nitrogen as well as chlorophyll a and turbidity for lakes, reservoirs, streams, rivers and wetlands within specified ecoregions. These recommended criteria are starting points for States and Tribes to use in developing their own nutrient criteria.

Applicability: Regions, States, Tribes

Contact: Bob Cantilli, 202-260-5546, cantilli.robert@epa.gov

Web address: <http://www.epa.gov/ost/standards/nutrient.html>

* ★ **New - Guidance for Assessing Chemical Contaminant Data for Use in Fish Advisories. Volume I: Sampling and Analysis. Third Edition** EPA 823-B-00-007

The Sampling and Analysis volume provides the latest information on sampling strategies for a contaminant monitoring program and on selecting target species; selecting chemicals as target analytes; and processing, preserving, and shipping samples. The volume also covers sample analysis and data reporting and analysis.

Applicability: States, Tribes, Regions and other Federal Agencies

Contact: Jeff Bigler, 202-260-1305, bigler.jeff@epa.gov

Copies Available: With title and document number from National Service Center for Environmental Publications (NSCEP) (1-800-490-9198) or (513-489-8192)

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/OST/fish>

* ★ **New - Guidance for Assessing Chemical Contaminant Data for Use in Fish Advisories. Volume II: Risk Assessments and Consumption Limits. Third Edition** EPA 823-B-00-008

This volume provides guidance on the development of risk-based meal consumption limits for 25

high-priority chemical contaminants (target analytes) selected based on their documented occurrences in fish and shellfish, persistence in the environment, potential for bioaccumulation, and toxicity to humans.

Applicability: States, Tribes, Regions and Other Federal Agencies

Contact: Jeff Bigler, 202-260-1305, bigler.jeff@epa.gov

Copies Available: With title and document number from National Service Center for Environmental Publications (NSCEP) (1-800-490-9198) or (513-489-8190)

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/OST/fish>

****Guidance for Conducting Fish and Wildlife Consumption Surveys, EPA-823-B-98-007***

This document provides explicit instructions for selecting a survey approach and designing a survey to obtain consumption rate information. It emphasizes the importance of objectives in selecting a survey approach and designing the survey; provides selection criteria for choosing among survey approaches; and critically evaluates key components in survey design and methods, including question development, statistical analysis, quality assurance/quality control, and data interpretation. A statistician should also be consulted to provide advice on specific sampling and statistical analysis considerations. The survey information can then be used to evaluate risk to persons who consume organisms that may contain bioaccumulative chemicals at potentially dangerous levels and to develop consumption advisories and water quality standards that protect human health.

Applicability: States, Tribes, Regions and Other Federal Agencies

Contact: Jeff Bigler, 202-260-1305, bigler.jeff@epa.gov

Copies Available: With title and document number from National Service Center for Environmental Publications (NSCEP) (1-800-490-9198) or (513-489-8190)

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/OST/fish>

****Guidance to States, Tribes and Regions on Priorities for the Water Quality Standards Program for FY 2000-2002, EPA-823-B-99-005***

The FY 2000-2002 Water Quality Standards priorities are designed to strengthen and modernize the Water Quality Standards program and the management of water resources on a watershed basis. The priorities have four organizing themes:

- Strengthen and modernize the basic structure of the water quality standards program;
- Improve the process for developing, adopting and approving water quality standards;
- Strengthen the scientific basis of water quality standards; and
- Expand the water quality standards program's implementation in Indian Country.

Applicability: Headquarters, Regions, States, Tribes

Contact: Marjorie Pitts, 202-260-1304, pitts.marjorie@epa.gov

Copies Available: With title and document number from National Service Center for Environmental Publications (NSCEP) (1-800-490-9198)

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/OST/standards>

****Water Quality Standards Handbook - Second Edition 1994. EPA 823/B-94-005***

This document supports the Water Quality Standards Regulation (40 CFR 131, as amended) and provides direction for states and Tribes as they develop, review, revise, and implement water quality

standards. The Handbook also presents evolving program concepts designed to reduce human and ecological risks such as endangered species protection; criteria to protect wildlife, wetlands, and sediment quality; biological criteria to better define desired biological communities in aquatic ecosystems; and nutrient criteria.

Applicability: Headquarters, Regions, States, Tribes

Contact: Robert Shippen, 202-260-1329, shippen.robert@epa.gov

Copies Available: With title and document number from National Service Center for Environmental Publications (NSCEP) (1-800-490-9198)

Contaminated Sediment Management Strategy

Describes actions that EPA intends to take to accomplish the following four strategic goals: 1) prevent the volume of contaminated sediment from increasing; 2) reduce the volume of existing contaminated sediment; 3) ensure that sediment dredging and dredged material disposal are managed in an environmentally sound manner; and 4) develop scientifically sound sediment management tools for use in pollution prevention, source control, remediation, and dredged material management. The Strategy is comprised of six component sections: assessment, prevention, remediation, dredged material management, research, and outreach. Each section describes EPA actions to accomplish the four broad strategic goals.

Applicability: EPA Program Offices and Regional Offices

Contact: Richard Healy, 202-260-7812, Healy.Richard@epa.gov

Copies Available: Copies of EPA's Contaminated Sediment Management Strategy (document number EPA-823-R-98-001) are available from the EPA National Center for Environmental Publications and Information 800-490-9198

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/ost/cs/>

****Inland Testing Manual***

Contains up-to-date procedures to implement requirements in the Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines for evaluation of potential contaminant-related impacts associated with the discharge of dredged material in fresh, estuarine, and saline (near coastal) waters. Formally titled "Evaluation of Dredged material Proposed for Discharge in Waters of the U.S. - Testing Manual", it was prepared by a joint Environmental Protection Agency/U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Workgroup. The Inland Testing Manual provides a national testing framework which comprises one element of an overall decision-making process for determining whether dredged material can be discharged into Clean Water Act Section 404 waters.

Applicability: EPA Headquarters and Regions, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, States, Dredged Material Dischargers

Contact: Richard Healy, 202-260-7812, Healy.Richard@epa.gov

Copies Available: Printed Copies are not currently available but the document is available for viewing and printing on the Internet in both PDF and HTML format.

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/OST/itm/index.html>

BASINS Version 3.0: Better Assessment Science Integrating Point and Nonpoint Sources,
EPA-823-B-01-001

BASINS is a multipurpose environmental analysis system for use by regional, state, and local agencies in performing watershed and water-quality-based studies. It was developed to facilitate examination of environmental information, to support analysis of environmental systems, to provide a framework for examining management alternatives, and to support the development of total maximum daily loads (TMDLs). Version 3.0 includes additional watershed models and an automated watershed delineation tool.

Applicability: Industry, Universities, Regions, States, Tribes, and Local Governments

Contact: Russell Kinerson, 202-260-1330, kinerson.russell@epa.gov

Copies Available: National Service Center for Environmental Publications, 800-490-9198; NTIS PB99-121295, 800-553-6847.

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/ost/basins>

*** ☆ NEW - *Methods for Measuring the Toxicity and Bioaccumulation of Sediment-associated Contaminants with Freshwater Invertebrates - Second Edition.***

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has published procedures for testing freshwater organisms in the laboratory to evaluate the potential toxicity or bioaccumulation of chemicals in whole sediments. This second edition updates methods originally published in 1994 (EPA/600/6-94/024). It includes new methods for evaluating sublethal effects of sediment-associated contaminants utilizing long-term sediment exposures. The sediment test methods in this manual will be used by USEPA to make decisions under a range of authorities concerning such issues as: dredged material disposal, registration of pesticides, assessment of new and existing industrial chemicals, Superfund site assessment, and assessment and cleanup of hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facilities.

Applicability: Headquarters, Regions, States, and tribes

Contact: Scott Ireland, 202-260-6091, Ireland.Scott@epa.gov

Copies Available: With title and document number from National Service Center for Environmental Publications, P.O. Box 42419, Cincinnati, OH., 45242 by phone at 1-800-490-9198 or on their web site at www.epa.gov/ncepihom/orderpub.html.

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/ost>

☆ NEW - *Bioaccumulation Testing and Interpretation for the Purpose Of Sediment Quality Assessment: Status and Needs and the Appendix.* These documents serve as a status and needs summary of the use of available bioaccumulation testing and interpretation methods and data, and were compiled by members of the EPA Bioaccumulation Analysis Workgroup. These documents provide a comprehensive summary of existing knowledge on bioaccumulation; provide a compilation of exposure and effects data for persistent, Bioaccumulative chemicals; discusses factors that affect the bioavailability of sediment-associated contaminants; identifies how various programs use bioaccumulation data for sediment management decisions and identifies issues and research needs for interpreting bioaccumulation data for the purpose of assessing sediment quality.

Applicability: Headquarters, Regions, States, Tribes

Contact: Richard Healy 202-260-7812, healy.richard@epa.gov

Copies Available: National Service Center for Environmental Publications (NSCEP)(1-800-490-9198)

Web Address:

★ **New - AQUATOX** (EPA-823-C-00-001, EPA-823-R-00-006,-007,-008)

AQUATOX is a PC based ecosystem model that simulates the transfer of biomass and chemicals from one ecosystem compartment to another. It does this by simultaneously computing important chemical and biological processes over time. AQUATOX can predict not only the fate of chemical in aquatic ecosystems, but also their and indirect effect on the ecosystem.

Applicability: Industry, Universities, Regions, States, Tribes and Local Governments

Contact: Marjorie Wellman, 202-260-9821, Wellman.marjorie@epa.gov

Copies Available: NSCEP (10800-490-9198)

Web Address: www.epa.gov/ost/models/aquatox

★ **New - *Implementation Guidance for Ambient Water Quality Criteria for Bacteria***

Draft document published in January 2000 (EPA-823-D-00-001), publication of the final document is expected in August 2001.

Applicability: Regions, States and Tribes

Contact: Jennifer Wigal, 202-260-5177, Wigal.Jennifer@epa.gov

****Memorandum of Agreement Between the Environmental Protection Agency, Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service Regarding Enhanced Cooperation Under the Clean Water Act and the Endangered Species Act, 66 FR 11202-11217, February 22, 2001***

Describes procedures for enhancing coordination in the protection of endangered and threatened species under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and the Clean Water Act's Water Quality Standards and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System programs.

Applicability: Headquarters, Regions, States, Tribes

Contact: Brian Thompson, 202-260-3809, thompson.brian@epa.gov

Copies Available: Brian Thompson, 202-260-3809

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/ost/standards/esa.html>

OFFICE OF WETLANDS, OCEANS & WATERSHEDS

I. Vision

The Office of Wetlands, Oceans & Watersheds, through its Regional and state partners, will continue to promote adoption and implementation of the watershed approach. We expect significantly new levels of protection to be afforded through implementation of the TMDL program, and we expect more accurate and consistent water quality assessment to result from the Consolidated Assessment and Listing Methodology (CALM). Regions should be working with states to upgrade their ambient monitoring programs and better manage their water quality information, to implement their recently upgraded nonpoint source management and control programs, to complete their coastal nonpoint pollution control programs, and to ensure the development and implementation of high-quality TMDLs, including through the funding of TMDL-related implementation projects with half of their Section 319 grant funds.

We will continue to develop and expand partnerships and technical assistance efforts to enhance the protection of our Nation's coastal and ocean resources, including continued support for implementation of Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plans for the 28 estuaries in the National Estuary Program. In addition, as the program moves entirely into the implementation stage, greater emphasis will be placed on developing methods to measure environmental results for the NEP. We will also strengthen the assessment, research and monitoring efforts that underlie our coastal protection activities through the periodic updates of the *Coastal Conditions Report* and implementation of the *Coastal Research and Monitoring Strategy*, a blueprint for meeting the key research and monitoring needs in the area of coastal protection. The dredging program will also emphasize partnership opportunities through the coordinating functions of the National Dredging Team, the Regional Dredging Teams, and Local Planning Groups, and through efforts to identify and implement projects that will re-use dredged materials in an environmentally sound/beneficial way. Continued emphasis will be placed on efforts to better coordinate actions to control and manage invasive species, monitor marine debris, protect coral reefs, identify sources and assess and mitigate the impacts of air deposition of pollutants to coastal waters, and control pollutants from vessels. We will also continue to coordinate and exchange lessons-learned with the Great Water Body Programs in the Great Lakes, Chesapeake Bay, and Gulf of Mexico.

The Wetlands program will restore and maintain the nation's waters including wetlands by effectively implementing EPA's responsibilities under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, and by encouraging and enabling the incorporation of wetlands protection and restoration into watershed planning efforts undertaken by States, Tribes or local entities. EPA will serve: 1) as a partner supporting protection efforts to conserve wetlands, shallow waters and free-flowing streams through our programs and authorities; 2) as a regulator developing and implementing fair, flexible and effective wetlands standards and policies; 3) as a promoter and developer of tools for assessing wetlands health and extent; 4) as a developer and distributor of sound scientific information for wetland and watershed decision-making; 5) as a supporter and proponent of effective State, Tribal and local wetlands protection and restoration programs; and 6) as a catalyst for cultivating

community interest in developing wetland and aquatic ecosystem protection strategies on a watershed basis.

II. Key Strategies

The TMDL Program

EPA proposed changes to the existing TMDL regulations in August, 1999. After a long comment period including hundreds of meetings and conference calls and the Agency's review and serious consideration of over 34,000 comments, the final rule was published on July 13, 2000. However, Congress added a "rider" to one of their appropriations bills that prohibits EPA from spending FY 2000 and FY 2001 money to implement this new rule. Thus, the current rule remains in effect until 30 days after Congress permits EPA to implement the new rule. TMDLs continue to be developed and completed under the current rule, as required by the 1972 law and many court orders. The regulations that currently apply are those that were issued in 1985 and amended in 1992 (40 CFR Part 130, section 130.7). These regulations mandate that states, territories, and authorized tribes list impaired and threatened waters and develop TMDLs.

*** *Implementation of Section 303(d) Until the New TMDL Rule Becomes Effective*** (December 7, 2000)

Memo from Bob Wayland to Regional Water Division Directors describing: (1) how to deal with 2000 303(d) list submissions; (2) methodology/scenarios for 2002 303(d) list submissions; and (3) policy on TMDL pace and priorities.

Applicability: Regions

Contact: Don Brady (202-260-7074); brady.donald@epa.gov

Web Address: <http://intranet.epa.gov/owow/tmdl/docs/303d12-7.html>

*** *New Policies for Establishing and Implementing TMDLs*** (August 8, 1997).

Sets forth fundamental EPA policies in two key areas: schedules for establishing TMDLs for all 303(d)-listed waters and implementation of TMDLs for waters impaired solely or primarily by nonpoint sources.

Applicability: Regions, States, Tribes

Contact: Don Brady (202-260-7074); brady.donald@epa.gov

Copies Available: Contact Jendayi Oakley-Gordon (202-260-7074)

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/OWOW/tmdl/ratepace.html>

★ New -- ***Coastal Research and Monitoring Strategy*** (September 2000)

Assesses national coastal research and monitoring needs and recommends an integrated framework to protect vital national, state, tribal coastal resources.

Applicability: Regions, States, Tribes

Contact: Barry Burgan, 202-260-7060

Copies available: Barry Burgan, 202-260-7060; burgan.barry@epa.gov

Web address: <http://www.cleanwater.gov/coastalresearch/>

☆ New -- ***Air-Water Interface Workplan*** (January 2001)

Joint Office of Water (OW)/Office of Air and Radiation (OAR) workplan outlines a schedule of specific regulatory and non-regulatory actions OAR and OW will take to reduce air deposition of toxics and nitrogen. EPA will review and update the work plan every two years.

Applicability: Regions, States, Tribes

Contact: Debora Martin, 202-260-2729; martin.debora@epa.gov

Copies available: Debora Martin, 202-260-2729

Web address: pdf file located at <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/t3/reports/combined.pdf>

☆ Upcoming -- ***Aquatic Nuisance Species in Ballast Water: What Should EPA's Role Be?*** (Draft expected 5/01)

EPA received a petition to regulate ballast water discharges from ships under Section 402 of the Clean Water Act, in order to prevent the spread of aquatic nuisance species. In response, EPA is preparing an assessment of the environmental, technical, and legal issues surrounding ballast water regulation by EPA. The assessment will be released as a draft report open for public comment. The report, when finalized, will include recommendations for EPA, and perhaps other regulatory bodies, on the appropriate role of EPA regulation in control of aquatic nuisance species from ballast water.

Applicability: Regions, States, Tribes

Contact: Dorn Carlson, (202/260-6411); carlson.dorn@epa.gov

Copies available: Not yet published

Web address: http://www.epa.gov/owow/invasive_species/petition.html

☆ Upcoming -- ***Cruise Ship Discharge Assessment Report*** (Draft expected 5/01)

EPA is preparing an assessment of cruise ship discharges as a first step in response to a petition to assess and, where necessary, regulate the discharges and waste management practices of cruise ships. The assessment will cover discharges of sewage, gray water (bath, shower, and galley water), bilge water, and other wastes generated aboard cruise ships. It will be released as a draft report open for public comment. The report, when finalized, will include recommendations for EPA and other regulatory bodies on appropriate regulatory and non-regulatory actions to assure the protection of the environment from cruise ship discharges.

Applicability: Regions, States, Tribes

Contact: Dorn Carlson, (202/260-6411); carlson.dorn@epa.gov

Copies available: Not yet published

Web address: http://www.epa.gov/owow/oceans/cruise_ships/

☆ Upcoming - ***Coastal Condition Report*** (summer 2001)

Summarizes Federal agencies' and regional data sets to present broad baseline picture of coastal waters conditions. The *Report*, which will be updated periodically, presents national-level coastal assessment information on water quality, sediment quality, biota, habitat, ecosystem integrity, public health.

Applicability: Regions, States, Tribes

Contact: Barry Burgan, 202-260-7060; burgan.barry@epa.gov

Copies available: Barry Burgan, 202-260-7060

Web address: draft *Report* available at: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/oceans/cwap/index.html>

III. Key Grant Guidances

★ upcoming: ***Section 319 2002 Grant Award Guidance*** [being drafted now]

The objective of this guidance is to strengthen state efforts to carry out pollutant reductions specified in an approved TMDLs in waters impaired by nonpoint sources. States will be encouraged to use their 319 funds to both develop TMDLs and related TMDL implementation plans and to implement needed NPS controls specified in the TMDLs.

Supplemental Guidelines for the Award of Section 319 Nonpoint Source Grants in FY 2001 (65 FR 70899-70905, Nov. 28, 2001)

Provides guidance on the use of Section 319 funds in FY 2001 for total maximum daily loads and watershed restoration action strategies; direction to focus funds on completing states' coastal nonpoint pollution control programs; and guidance on how Regions should document their findings of satisfactory progress in State programs.

Applicability: Regions, States, Tribes

Contact: Dov Weitman (202-260-7088); weitman.dov@epa.gov

Copies Available: Janet Shifflett (202-260-7100)

Web address: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/Section319/fy2001.html>

Supplemental Guidance for the Award of Section 319 Nonpoint Source Grants in FY 2000 (December 21, 1999)

Provides guidance on the use of Section 319 funds in FY 2000 for animal feeding operations, lakes, watershed restoration action strategies, and American Heritage Rivers. Also reiterates that States need to complete their nonpoint source program upgrades in order to be eligible to receive incremental funds in FY 2000.

Applicability: Regions, States, Tribes

Contact: Dov Weitman (202-260-7088); weitman.dov@epa.gov

Copies Available: Janet Shifflett (202-260-7100)

Web address: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/Section319/fy2000.html>

Guidelines on Awarding Section 319 Grants to Indian Tribes in FY 2001 (December 2000)

Provides guidance for awarding increased amounts of Section 319 dollars to Tribes. Increases the amount available to Tribes for one year to \$6 million. Establishes base funding of \$30,000 for most eligible Tribes (i.e., has an approved nonpoint source assessment and management program) and \$50,000 for the largest Tribes, and establishes a process to distribute the remaining funds on a competitive basis in amounts ranging up to \$100,000 each..

Applicability: Regions, Tribes

Contact: Ed Drabkowski (202-260-7009); drabkowski.ed@epa.gov

Copies Available: Janet Shifflett (202-260-7100)

Web address: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/tribes/tribes20.html>

Process and Criteria for Funding State and Territorial Nonpoint Source Management Programs in FY 1999 (August 18, 1998)

Provides additional guidance on the use of increased funds (from \$105 million in FY 1998 to \$200 million in FY 1999) for the implementation of state, territorial and tribal nonpoint source management programs in FY 1999. Discusses the use of incremental funds to support implementation of actions called for in Watershed Restoration Action Strategies developed in conjunction with Unified Watershed Assessments carried out by the States, Territories and Tribes pursuant to the Clean Water Action Plan.

Applicability: Regions, States, Tribes

Contact: Dov Weitman (202-260-7088); weitman.dov@epa.gov

Copies Available: Janet Shifflett (202-260-7100)

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/section319/fy99guid.html>

**** Nonpoint Source Program and Grants Guidance for Fiscal Year 1997 and Future Years*** (May 1996)

Sets forth the framework for a stronger and more effective partnership between EPA and state lead agencies to guide the upgrading and implementation of dynamic, effective state nonpoint source programs. Provides guidance on developing priorities and ensuring effective use and management of annual Clean Water Act Section 319 program grants to States, Territories and Tribes.

Applicability: Regions, States, Tribes

Contact: Dov Weitman (202-260-7088); weitman.dov@epa.gov

Copies Available: Janet Shifflett (202-260-7100)

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/guide.html>

Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program (January 1993)

Sets forth the program elements and other requirements which coastal states with Federally approved Coastal Zone Management (CZM) programs must include in Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Programs (CNPCP) in order to achieve joint EPA and NOAA approval of their programs and continue to be fully eligible for annual program grants under Section 319 of the CWA and Section 6217 of CZARA.

Applicability: Regions, States, Tribes

Contact: Stacie Craddock (EPA) (202-260-3788); craddock.stacie@epa.gov

Copies Available: Janet Shifflett (EPA) (202-260-710)

National Estuary Program Grant Guidance

This guidance provides annual funding levels to the 28 estuary projects in the National Estuary Program. Updated and issued annually, the guidance may also clarify any program issues that arise from year to year.

Applicability: Regions and Estuary Programs

Contact: Nancy Laurson (202-260-1698); laurson.nancy@epa.gov

Copies Available: Contact OCPD (202-260-1952)

Web Address: Not available on the Internet

Wetland Program Development Grants

These grants assist state, tribal and local government (S/T/LG) agencies in wetlands protection, management and restoration efforts. Grant funds can be used to develop new wetland programs or refine existing wetland programs. EPA must ensure that the grant funds are directed toward activities that result in demonstrated progress in achieving the objective of improving S/T/LG wetland programs.

Applicability: Regions, States, Tribes, local governments, intergovernmental organizations

Contact: Donna An, (202) 260-0335, an.donna@epa.gov

Copies Available: U.S. EPA Wetlands Helpline, (800) 832-7828

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/OWOW/wetlands/2001grant/>

Five-Star Restoration Challenge Grants

The Five-Star Restoration Program provides modest financial assistance to support community-based wetland and riparian restoration projects to build diverse partnerships, and to foster local natural resource stewardship. The “stars” in “Five-Star” are the partners, funders, and/or participants necessary to complete the restoration project, including youth organizations, county governments, corporations, and others. The projects will include strong environmental education and on-the-ground habitat restoration components, and may also include outreach and community stewardship.

Applicability: Regions, states, local governments, non-profit organizations

Contact: John Pai, (202) 260-8076, pai.john@epa.gov

Copies Available: U.S. EPA Wetlands Hotline, (800) 832-7828

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/restore/5star/>

IV. Key Programmatic Guidances

★ Upcoming: ***Section 303(d) 2002 Listing Guidance*** [being drafted now]

This guidance sets out EPA’s expectations for the list of impaired waters, under section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act, that states and other jurisdictions must submit to EPA for approval no later than April 1, 2002. EPA’s goal in issuing this guidance is to ensure that the 2002 lists are scientifically sound and supported by good monitoring data. The 2002 list will replace previous lists that a state has submitted, unless legal obligations dictate otherwise. The 2002 lists should also contain a schedule for developing the TMDLs at a reasonable pace. States should look to the CALM guidance for more in depth information on monitoring and assessment methods.

Guidance Specifying Management Measures For Sources of Nonpoint Pollution in Coastal Waters (January, 1993)

Describes the management measures to be implemented within their coastal watersheds by all coastal states with Federally approved Coastal Zone Management Programs as required by Section 6217 of the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments of 1990 (CZARA). A brief description of the effects of nonpoint source pollution upon surface and ground water and the most effective management measures and strategies for reducing or preventing such pollution is provided for five major categories of nonpoint source pollution: agriculture, forestry, urban, hydromodification and

wetlands. Also contains extensive reference lists of additional technical material and limited cost data.

Applicability: Regions, States, Tribes

Contact: Robert Goo (202-260-7025); goo.robert@epa.gov

Copies Available: Janet Shifflett (202-260-7100)

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov>

Process for Approval of Upgraded State and Territorial Nonpoint Source Management Programs and Formal Recognition of Enhanced Benefits Status (January 7, 1999)

Reviews the process EPA is using to approve upgraded State and Territorial Nonpoint Source Management Programs and to formally recognize Enhanced Benefits Status as originally outlined in *Nonpoint Source Program and Grants Guidance for Fiscal Years 1997 and Future Years* (May, 1996). This Guidance also emphasizes the provision in the *Clean Water Action Plan* which limits award of the incremental funds (new section 319 monies above the \$100 million base amount) to those states with EPA-approved nonpoint source management program upgrades beginning in FY 2000 and provides a checklist for states to use in ensuring that their program upgrades adequately address the Nine Key Elements which are the principal criteria for the program upgrades.

Applicability: Regions, States, Tribes

Contact: Dov Weitman (202-260-7088); weitman.dov@epa.gov

Copies Available: Janet Shifflett (202-260-7100)

Web Address: will shortly be available at the "Clean Water Act 319" button on the NPS Homepage at: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps>

Final Administrative Changes to the Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program Guidance for Section 6217 of the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments of 1990 (CZARA) (October 16, 1998)

Sets forth final administrative changes to the Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program Guidance resulting from a cooperative effort with the states to resolve outstanding issues for the coastal nonpoint program, including targeting, enforceable policies and mechanisms, time frames and resources. The changes provide substantial flexibility for coastal states, commonwealths and territories to complete development of their programs, remove conditions placed on program approval and successfully implement their coastal nonpoint programs, while maintaining the core principles of the program.

Applicability: Regions, States, Tribes

Contacts: Stacie Craddock (EPA) (202-260-3788); craddock.stacie@epa.gov; Marcella Jansen (NOAA) (301-713-3098, ext. 143)

Copies Available: Joseph P. Flanagan (301-713-3121, x201)

Web Address: http://www.nos.noaa.gov/ocrm/czm/6217/admin_changes.html

****☆ Upcoming – Elements of an Adequate State Ambient Water Monitoring and Assessment Program*** (Draft April 2001)

Provides guidance to better define the elements of an adequate state ambient water monitoring program for purposes of Section 106(e)(1) of the Clean Water Act. Because these elements have not

been clearly defined in the past, EPA expects most States to employ an iterative process to fully achieve all elements. States generally will need to: develop a monitoring program strategy addressing all required elements; identify resource/technology gaps for those portions of the strategy not yet achieved; and adopt an implementation schedule for those portions of the strategy not yet achieved. This guidance will be a component of the Consolidated Assessment and Listing Methodology, to be available in final in July 2001.

Applicability: States and Tribes

Contact: Susan Holdsworth (202-260-4743); holdsworth.susan@epa.gov

Copies Available: Susan Holdsworth (202-260-4743)

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/monitoring/calm.html>

*** *Guidelines for Preparation of the Comprehensive State Water Quality Assessments (305(b) Reports) and Electronic Updates: Report Contents and Supplement* (September 1997)**

Provides detailed guidance on the contents of a State or Tribal 305(b) Report and the methods for assessing water quality. This document emphasizes approaches for achieving comprehensive assessments of States and Tribes' waters, enhancing the data quality for assessing aquatic life and other designated use support, improving the consistency of decision criteria used in assessments, reporting assessments electronically, and indexing data geographically. This document provides guidance for States and Tribes to use in preparing their next 305(b) report due April 1, 2002.

Applicability: States and Tribes

Contact: Susan Holdsworth (202-260-4743); holdsworth.susan@epa.gov

Copies Available: Susan Holdsworth (202-260-4743)

Web Address: not yet available on the Internet

*** ☆ *upcoming – Consolidated Assessment and Listing Methodology (CALM)* (Draft April 2001)**

Provides guidance to states, territories, tribes, and commissions regarding the data used to make decisions about whether waters are impaired. The CALM is built on, among other things, the work of the long-standing 305(b) consistency workgroup; findings of the Intergovernmental Task Force on Monitoring Water Quality; and guidance on the elements of an adequate state watershed monitoring and assessment program, which was prepared for EPA and the Standards and Monitoring Task Force of the Association of State and Interstate Water Pollution Control Administrators. The CALM describes data which a state should cover in a consolidated Section 305(b)/303(d) assessment. Phased issuance of the CALM will include six major parts, three in the first release of the guidance. The CALM will include: 1) guidance on attainment/non-attainment of state water quality standards (covering listing/de-listing decisions), 2) comprehensive state monitoring coverage, 3) presentation of data, 4) elements of an increasingly comprehensive state monitoring program, 5) causes and sources of impairment, and, 6) additional sections on discrete types of pollutants such as pathogens, nutrients, sedimentation, and fish advisories. The CALM will provide guidance on the monitoring and assessment needed to underlie decision making, and on communicating attainment of water quality standards to the public. Final guidance will be available in July 2001.

Applicability: States and Tribes

Contact: Susan Holdsworth (202) 260-4743); holdsworth.susan@epa.gov

Copies Available: Susan Holdsworth (202-260-4743)

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/monitoring/calm.html>

☆ upcoming: ***Guidance for State Water Quality Assessments (305(b) Reports) and Electronic Updates for the 2002 Reporting Cycle*** (being drafted now)

This guidance sets out EPA's expectations for the development and submission of §305(b) water quality reports from States, territories, and authorized tribes by April 1, 2002. It also includes necessary data elements for electronic submission of water quality data and information..

Applicability: States and Tribes

Contact: Susan Holdsworth (202-260-4743); holdsworth.susan@epa.gov

Copies Available: Susan Holdsworth (202-260-4743)

Web Address: not yet available on the Internet

Local Planning Groups and Development of Dredged Material Management Plans (June 1998)

Provides a suggested framework through which local planning groups can develop implementable long-term dredged material management plans.

Applicability: Regions, states, local planning groups

Contact: Elizabeth Beiring (202-260-8484); beiring.elizabeth@epa.gov

Copies Available: contact Elizabeth Beiring (202/260-8484)

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/oceans/ndt/guidance.pdf>

Replacement Nationwide Permit

This set of activity-based CWA Section 404 Nationwide Permits were published in March 2000 by the Corps of Engineers and went into effect in June. The were developed in coordination with EPA and other federal resource agencies, and replaced Nationwide Permit #26, which was phased out in response to concerns about its adverse environmental effects. The provisions of the replacement permit package ensure impacts are minimal, while continuing to provide expedited review for certain categories of activities.

Applicability: Regions, states, regulated community

Contact: Lisa Morales, (202) 260-6013, morales.lisa@epa.gov

Copies Available: U.S. EPA Wetlands Helpline, (800) 832-7828

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/OWOW/wetlands/regs/>

In-lieu-fee Mitigation Guidance

EPA, the Corps of Engineers, Fish and Wildlife Service, and National Marine Fisheries Service completed guidance on the use of in-lieu-fee compensatory mitigation to offset impacts from activities permitted under Clean Water Act Section 404. The guidance was published in the Federal Register in November 2000.

Applicability: Regions, states, regulated community

Contact: Lisa Morales, (202) 260-6013, morales.lisa@epa.gov

Copies Available: U.S. EPA Wetlands Helpline, (800) 832-7828

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/OWOW/wetlands/>

☆ *upcoming -- Identifying, Planning and Financing Beneficial Use Projects Using Dredged Material*

Presents a framework for identifying, planning and financing projects to beneficially use dredged material.

Applicability: Regions, states, local planning groups

Contact: Laura Johnson (202-260-3597); johnson.laura-s@epa.gov

Copies Available: copies not yet available – expected by the end of 2001

Web Address: not yet available on the Internet.

☆ *upcoming -- EPA/Corps Joint Bioaccumulation Analysis Workgroup for Dredged Material Management Program*

The EPA and Corps have formed this workgroup on bioaccumulation assessment and interpretation for implementation of the dredged material management program (under both the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act Section 103, and the Clean Water Act Section 404). The primary objective of this workgroup is to provide guidance on using bioaccumulation data to make regulatory decisions in the dredged material management program.

Applicability: Regions, states, Local Planning Groups

Contact: Dave Redford (202-260-1952); redford.david@epa.gov

Copies Available: First Draft Guidance Document – expected by the end of 2001

Web Address: not yet available on the Internet.

☆ *EPA/Corps Guidance to the Field on Protecting Coral Reefs under the CWA Section 404 and MPRSA programs* (November 1999)

This guidance was prepared jointly by the U.S. EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers to emphasize the protection afforded the Nation's valuable coral reef ecosystems under the Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404 regulatory program, the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act (MPRSA) Sections 102 and 103 provisions, Rivers and Harbors Act (RHA) Section 10 requirements, and Federal Projects conducted by the Corps.

Applicability: Regions, states, regulated community

Contact: Laura Johnson (202-260-3597); johnson.laura-s@epa.gov

Copies Available: U.S. EPA Wetlands Hotline, (800) 832-7828

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/coralNav.html>

Evaluating Environmental Effects of Dredged Material Management Alternatives — A Technical Framework (November 1992)

This document provides a consistent technical framework for identifying environmentally acceptable alternatives for the management of dredged material. Application of this framework will enhance consistency and coordination in EPA/Corps of Engineers decision-making, in accordance with Federal environmental statutes that regulate dredged material management.

Applicability: Regions, States, Local Planning Groups

Contact: Elizabeth Beiring (202/260-8484); beiring.elizabeth@epa.gov

Copies available: Contact Elizabeth Beiring (202/260-8484)

Web address: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/oceans/framework/>

Implementation Review (December 2000)

Provides current guidance on EPA's process for reviewing each National Estuary Program's (NEP) implementation of its Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan. Guidance lists topics about which NEPs must provide documentation, and includes the review schedule through 2005.

Applicability: Regions, States, National Estuary Programs

Contact: Gregory Colianni (202-260-4025); colianni.gregory@epa.gov

Copies Available: Contact Gregory Colianni (202-260-4025)

Web Address: Not available on the Internet.

★ ***upcoming -- Guidance Document for Development of Site Management Plans for Ocean Dredged Material Disposal Sites***

Provides guidance to Environmental Protection Agency Regions and Army Corps of Engineers Districts on preparation of ocean dredged material disposal site designation, management and monitoring plans; lays out a recommended framework for site designation, management, and monitoring plan development and content.

Applicability: Regions, States, Local Planning Groups

Contact: Jonathan Amson (202/260-9125); amson.jonathan@epa.gov

Copies available: Not yet available

Web address: <http://epa.gov/owow/oceans/ndt/siteplan.html>

Office of Wastewater Management

I. Vision

The goal of the Office of Wastewater Management is to ensure that every watershed in the United States, including source water for drinking water, is free from impairments from point source discharges. States, and local communities are partners with EPA headquarters and regions in achieving this goal. EPA provides its partners with appropriate tools to achieve water quality and human health goals, focusing on the appropriate use and improvement of wastewater infrastructure, management and operations techniques, and financial mechanisms. The major mechanisms used by the Office of Wastewater Management are the Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program (CWSRF) (which also provides funding to control nonpoint sources of pollution and to implement Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plans for the 28 estuaries in the National Estuary Program) and the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Program.

Over the next several years, our programs will face a number of significant challenges if we are to effectively address the remaining threats to water quality. First, we are increasingly aware of the importance of finding new ways to implement our programs on a watershed basis. Second, implementing TMDLs, addressing wet-weather discharges (storm water, combined sewer overflows (CSOs), sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs), and concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs), as well as addressing the water infrastructure and nonpoint source funding gap are major issues that will present significant managerial challenges to our programs and to our partners in states and communities.

Effective management of the base NPDES program will also be a priority, including efforts to continue to reduce permit backlogs and assess the health of state NPDES programs to ensure appropriate solutions to water quality problems. Wet-weather discharges are the largest cause of point source impairments to surface waters. Solutions cannot be considered in isolation and will need to be tailored to the characteristics of individual watersheds. Creative approaches, including use of Best Management Practices and techniques like environmental management systems, will be integral to finding cost-effective solutions. Finally, EPA needs to play a leadership role in the national dialogue on maintaining and improving wastewater infrastructure around the country. As the American population continues to grow, the nation will have to have to significantly increase spending to maintain the existing level of service and maintain (and replace) aging infrastructure.

II. Key Strategies

Unified National Strategy for Animal Feeding Operations (AFOs) (March 1999)

The Unified National Strategy for Animal Feeding Operations, developed jointly by the Department of Agriculture and the Environmental Protection Agency, employs a range of flexible, common-sense tools to reduce potentially harmful runoff from 450,000 animal feeding operations nationwide. The Strategy: (1) discusses the relationships between AFOs and environmental and public health; (2) is based on a national performance expectation for all AFO owners and operators;

and (3) presents a series of actions to minimize public health impacts and improve water quality while complementing the long-term sustainability of livestock production.

Contact: Louis Eby; (202-564-6599); eby.louis@epa.gov

Copies Available: See contact or Web address.

Web address: www.epa.gov/npdes

Reduce the Backlog in NPDES Permits (May 4, 1999)

In a memo dated May 4, 1999, the AA for Water established the following quantitative targets for reducing the backlog:

- The backlog of major permits will be reduced to 10 percent by the end of calendar year 2001
- The backlog for all permits will be reduced to 10 percent by the end of calendar year 2004

Over the past year, the Agency worked closely with state and regional partners to formulate state and regional strategies to reduce the NPDES permit backlog. A broader national strategy, titled the *Interim Framework to Ensure Issuance of Timely and High Quality NPDES Permits (Approaches for Reducing the NPDES Permit Backlog)* was issued by OWM on July 28, 1999. The strategy and the latest backlog trends data are available on the NPDES Backlog Reduction Website.

Contact: David Hair (202-564-0712); hair.david@epa.gov

Copies Available: See contact or Web address.

Web Address: www.epa.gov/npdes

The Endangered Species Act MOA Published in the Federal Register (February 22, 2001)

EPA, the Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service (the Services) finalized and signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) explaining how the three agencies will work together to achieve the complementary goals of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and Endangered Species Act (ESA). The MOA's objectives include improving federal coordination to protect at-risk species while ensuring that states and tribes remain primarily responsible for implementing the requirements of the CWA. The MOA establishes coordination procedures regarding the issuance of state or tribal NPDES permits, as well as EPA-issued permits. The Agency believes this national guidance will assist EPA and Service regional and field offices in working together more efficiently and effectively.

Contact: Susan Johnson (202-564-8329); johnson.susan@epa.gov or Tom Charlton (202-564-6960); charlton.tom@epa.gov

Copies Available: See contacts or Web address.

Web Address: www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-SPECIES/2001/February/Day-22/e2170.

Clean Water State Revolving Fund Funding Framework Strategy

This strategy supports the Office of Water's watershed approach to managing its environmental programs. The Framework is designed to help states set priorities and demonstrate the relative importance of both point and nonpoint source projects to meeting their water quality goals. EPA is encouraging states to develop integrated priority setting systems and linking their CWSRF programs to watershed planning efforts. EPA has issued an Integrated Priority System Protocol for regional offices to use when reviewing state priority systems that provides a step by step description of the process states may use to develop Integrated Project Priority Lists that consider wastewater, nonpoint

source and estuary management projects and direct funds to the highest priority water quality projects. A series of fact sheets is being developed which will further detail how the CWSRF can be used to implement nonpoint source and estuary management plans. Fact sheets on using the CWSRF to fund polluted runoff, decentralized wastewater treatment systems, brownfields, MTBE remediation, source water protection, class V injection wells, mining, wetlands, and estuary projects have already been issued. EPA has also issued clarification on how states may finance projects using the 319 and 320 authorities.

Applicability: States and Regions

Contact: Stephanie von Feck, 202-564-0609

Copies Available: by Internet (srfinfo.group@epa.gov), by mail from EPA Office of Wastewater Management, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (4204M), Washington, DC 20460, and by phone at (202) 564-0752

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/owm>

Water Infrastructure Gap Analysis

The Nation has made a substantial investment in drinking water and wastewater treatment systems. Today, this water and wastewater infrastructure provides Americans with significant benefits in the form of reduced water pollution and safe drinking water. In the case of wastewater treatment, the economy and population have grown by a third, but today, our wastewater treatment infrastructure has reduced discharges into waterways by 40 percent since the Clean Water Act was passed in 1972. This critical infrastructure, however, is aging and deteriorating. In addition, increases in population, population shifts, and new treatment demands are straining financial resources in many communities.

It is generally agreed that significant investment will need to take place in the water and wastewater infrastructure industry to replace and enhance aging systems and to maintain improvements that have been made in human health and environmental quality.

EPA is currently conducting an analysis which will quantify the difference (i.e., the “gap”) between current infrastructure investment and the investment levels that will be necessary to replace and enhance water and wastewater infrastructure. EPA is also committed to fostering a constructive dialogue over the best approaches to assuring that critical water and wastewater infrastructure is maintained and improved so that Americans can enjoy clean and safe water for many years to come.

Applicability: Regions, states, municipalities

Contact: Angela Cracchiolo (202)564-0607 cracchiolo.angela@epa.gov and Steve Allbee (202)564-0581 allbee.steve@epa.gov

Copies Available:

Web address:

Decentralized Wastewater Treatment Strategy

EPA will promote the use, where appropriate, of centralized management of decentralized wastewater systems. This initiative will include financial and technical support of state, tribal, and decentralized wastewater programs so that they are consistently managed and administered. EPA will, together with regions, states and other stakeholders, develop voluntary national standards for onsite management programs that address siting, performance, design, and maintenance of these systems. EPA will also fund projects that demonstrate how to overcome barriers to decentralized

sewage management. In addition, guidance will be published on the appropriate use of state loan funds to support these systems. This work was identified in the Response to Congress on Decentralized Wastewater Treatment.

Applicability: Regions, States, Tribes

Contact: Joyce Hudson, 202-260-1290, hudson.joyce@epa.gov

Copies Available: Contact Joyce Hudson

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/OWM/decent/decent.htm>

Guidance on Technologies Available for Wastewater, Storm water and Biosolids Treatment

EPA has developed a series of fact sheets on technologies available. The goal is to have approximately 180 fact sheets completed by the end of FY 2002. Completed fact sheets are posted on the OWM web site.

Applicability: States, Regions, municipalities, consulting engineers

Contact: Jim Wheeler, (202) 564-0662

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/owm/muni.htm>

★ Guidance for the year 2002 National Wastewater Management Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Excellence Awards Program

EPA annually recognizes industrial organizations and municipalities for demonstrated outstanding and innovative technological achievements in waste treatment and pollution abatement programs. The guidance, to be issued in January 2002, provides the national award eligibility requirements, instructions for the regional/state nomination/award procedure and how to apply for the recognition award.

Applicability: Regions, municipalities, industrial organizations

Contact: Maria E. Campbell, 202-564-0628, campbell.maria@epa.gov.

Copies Available: EPA regions distribute copies to State water pollution control facilities, or interested parties may contact Maria Campbell, EPA, Office of Wastewater Management, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (4204), Washington, DC 20460, for regional contact information.

Web Address: Not available.

★ Guidance on the Biosolids Awards Program

January 2002. EPA annually recognizes municipalities and institutions which operate biosolids facilities, develop technologies, conduct research, and promote public acceptance of biosolids. This guidance defines how to prepare and submit applications for the awards.

Applicability: States, Regions, municipalities

Contact: John Walker (202) 564-0654

Copies Available: Contact John Walker, (202) 564-0654

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/owm>

**** Review Standards for Construction Grants Audits, Management Decisions, and Dispute Resolution***

The purpose of this memorandum is to call attention to Congressional Committee report language for the FY 2001 Appropriations Act regarding the standards of review in the construction grant

program audit and dispute resolution processes, and to provide guidance on the review standards to be used.

Applicability: Regions

Contact: Chau Hoang, 202-564-0689, hoang.chau@epa.gov

Copies Available: TBA

Web Address: TBA

*** Construction Grants Close Out Strategy**

This strategy, issued in June 1997, is the road map for closing out the remaining projects in the municipal wastewater treatment construction grants program under Title II of the Clean Water Act. Each Region has an input to the yearly updates to the strategy, and is responsible for meeting close out goals in a given fiscal year. MSD provides oversight and direction of the program, reporting progress on a regular basis to the EPA Administrator, IG, and OW, as well as outside agencies such as GAO.

The ultimate goal of the strategy is for all regions to have closed out their construction grants programs by the end of FY 2002. Success is defined by there being no more than 10 projects left to be closed out in a region, with no more than 5 projects left in any state within the region. Although the June 1997 strategy generally defined how the construction grants program was to proceed to closeout and defined success in the process, certain aspects of the project universe needed further clarification. As District of Columbia and territories are still receiving State Revolving Fund (SRF) money as grants, the number of grants to be closed needed further clarification. On May 6, 1999, clarifications to the post-1997 construction grants closeout strategy was issued. This supplemental guidance clarified that all grants awarded prior to FY 1992 (pre-92) will be targeted for close out by FY 2002. The grants made after FY 1991(post-91), especially those made with post FY 1990 funds in the territories that receive Title VI funds as Title II grants, will be targeted to be administratively completed within 5 years of grant award and closed out within 7 years of grant award. According to Office of Water Management Agreement at the end of FY 2000, 123 pre-92 grants and by the end of FY 2001 and FY 2002, 45 and 13 pre-92 grants respectively will be left for close out. The construction grants closeout goal is to achieve success as defined in the 1997 strategy by FY 2002. Current status of Regionwise break down is given below.

Remaining Pre-92 Construction Grant Projects

Region	At the end of FY 2000	At the end of FY 2001	At the end of FY 2002
1	11	9	0
2	51	23	2
3	30	12	6
4	18	8	2
5	46	9	4
6	5	4	0
7	6	1	0
8	1	1	0

9	11	1	0
10	9	2	0
Country Total	188	70	14

Applicability: Regions, States

Contact: Gajindar Singh, 202-564-0634, singh.gajindar@epa.gov

Copies Available: Contact Gajindar Singh, EPA, Office of Wastewater Management, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (4204), Washington, DC 20460

Web Address: Not available.

III. Key Grant Guidance

★ FY 2002 STAG Guidelines

Will provide information and guidelines on how the Agency will award and administer grants for the special and programs included in the State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG) Account of the Agency's FY 2002 Appropriations Act.

Applicability: Regions, States, grant applicants

Contact: Larry McGee, 202-564-0619, mcgee.larry@epa.gov

Copies Available: Guidelines will be developed and issued approximately 90 days after enactment of the Agency's FY 2002 Appropriations Act.

Web Address: Not available

★ FY 2001 Clean Water Act Section 106 Grant Guidance

Document provides guidance to the EPA Regions, States, territories, and interstates agencies on the procedures and principles for administering and managing the Section 106 grant program, including Clean Water Act, Section 106(e) eligibility requirements, special grant conditions, and optional funding tools (i.e. In-kind-assistance). Appendix A of the document provides a comprehensive summary of the water quality programmatic priorities to be considered by the Regions and States in the negotiations of grant work programs supported with Section 106 funding.

Applicability: Regions, States, territories, D.C., and interstate agencies

Contact: Carol Crow, 202-564-0644, crow.carol@epa.gov

Copies Available: Regional State Section 106 Coordinators

Web Address: Not available.

★ Fiscal Year 2002 National Managing and Reporting Guidance for CWA 104(g)(1) Operator Technical Assistance Grants

The guidance provides, to every Region, instructions for disbursing their allotments of 104(g)(1) grant funds to States and State Training Centers. The primary use of Section 104 (g)(1) funds is to provide on-site technical assistance for operators and municipal employees involved in the operation, maintenance, and management of publicly-owned treatment works. States may also propose using these funds to promote energy/water use efficiency and technical assistance on sewer system maintenance to control infiltration and inflow and sanitary sewer overflows. The program will assist approximately 775 facilities in fiscal year 2002, the table below represents the regional breakdown.

FY 2002

Region	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	TOTAL
# of facilities	75	30	105	90	120	100	40	90	40	80	775

Applicability: Regions

Contact: Curt Baranowski, 202-564-0636; baranowski.curt@epa.gov

Copies Available: Contact Curt Baranowski

Web Address: Not yet available (grant guidance for FY 01 is at www.epa.gov/owm/tomm.htm.)

*** Guidelines and Requirements for Applying for Grants From the Indian Set-Aside Program**

Intended to help Indian Tribes apply for and manage grants for the construction of wastewater treatment facilities that are available from EPA under Section 518© of the Clean Water Act.

Applicability: Regions, Tribes

Contact: Sylvia Bell, 202-546-0621, bell.sylvia@epa.gov

Copies Available: from Sylvia Bell, EPA, Office of Wastewater Management, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (4204), Washington, DC 20460

Web Address: Not available.

★ Final Guidance on the Award of Grants to Indian Tribes Under Section 106 of the Clean Water Act for FY 2000 and Future Years

This guidance provides EPA Regions with a framework of the operating procedures and guidelines for awarding and administering environmental program grants to federally recognized Indian Tribes under the authority of Section 106 of the Clean Water Act (CWA), for Fiscal Year 2000 and future years. This guidance supersedes the previously issued guidance of June 20, 1995. This guidance provides the basis for negotiations with our tribal partners who play a vital role in protecting and restoring the Nation's waters. The guidance addresses key elements of the CWA Section 106 Tribal Grant Program— program priorities, eligibilities, funding allocations, cost-sharing, performance evaluation, and progress reporting. Section 106 of the Clean Water Act(CWA) authorizes annual appropriations of funds for federal grants to assist state and interstate agencies in administering water pollution control programs. Section 518(e) of the CWA authorizes EPA to treat a federally recognized Indian Tribe as a State for the purposes of receiving funding under Section 106. A portion of the total section 106 appropriation is set-aside to fund Tribal water pollution control programs. The Section 106 set-aside funds are allocated to the EPA Regions in accordance with the Section 106 allotment formula adopted in Fiscal Year 1998. Unlike states and interstate agencies, individual Tribes do not receive allotments directly from EPA. Each Region has the discretion to make Section 106 grant awards to eligible Tribes, as it believes appropriate, consistent with statutory limitations, Agency regulations, and this guidance.

Applicability: Eligible Tribes

Contact: Clarence Braddock, (202) 564-0648, braddock.clarence@epa.gov

Copies Available: Contact regional Section 106 tribal coordinators

★ IV. New Guidance Issued in the Last Year (FY 2001)

Understanding and Accounting for Method Variability in Whole Effluent Toxicity Applications Under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Program (June 2000)

The purpose of this final document issued on June 30, 2000, is to provide regulatory authorities with an understanding of whole effluent toxicity (WET) test variability, provide guidance to permitting authorities on what they can do to account for and minimize WET test variability and its effects on the regulatory process, and identify areas where EPA can further evaluate ways to minimize WET test variability.

Contact: Laura Phillips (202-564-0741); phillips.laura@epa.gov

Copies Available: See contact or Web address.

Website: www.epa.gov/npdes

Guidance Manual for Conditional Exclusion from Storm Water Permitting Based on "No Exposure" of Industrial Activities to Storm Water (July 2000)

This guidance provides industrial facilities, as identified in 40 CFR 122.26(b)(14)(I) to (ix) and (xi) (note: not applicable to construction activity, "category (x)"), subject to storm water program requirements with information to determine if they qualify for a permitting waiver and how to apply for it. The waiver is based on the lack of exposure of the facility's industrial activities or materials to precipitation or runoff. This provision was previously available only to light (category (xi)) industries, but is now available to any industrial storm water discharger, as of publication of the storm water Phase II rule on December 8, 1999. The new provision requires all facilities who wish to take advantage of the permitting exclusion to submit a no exposure certification to EPA.

Contact: Bryan Rittenhouse (202-564-0577); rittenhouse.bryan@epa.gov

Copies Available: See Web address.

Website: www.epa.gov/npdes

EPA Plan for PCS Data Management (September, 2000)

In September 2000, OW and OECA signed a joint memo re-emphasizing the importance of maintaining accurate and complete NPDES data in the Permit Compliance System (PCS). The memo provided a list of key data fields that are essential to the management of the NPDES program and a plan to populate PCS with the necessary data. States and regions are encouraged to enter and upload this key data into PCS and, where necessary, OW is providing contract resources to assist in the process.

Contact: Kelley Volak; 202-564-0307; volak.kelley@epa.gov

Copies Available: See contact

Web Address: www.epa.gov/npdes

Implementation of Clean Water Act Section 316(b) in National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permits (December 28, 2000)

This guidance memorandum identifies as a priority for the NPDES program the issuance of permits to new or existing major point sources subject to the requirements of section 316 of the Clean Water Act and describes existing guidance applicable to the development of permits for these dischargers. Section 316(b) of the Clean Water Act requires that the location, design, construction, and capacity of cooling water intake structures reflect the best technology available for minimizing adverse

environmental impact. While EPA is developing national regulations to implement section 316(b) of CWA, EPA and state permitting authorities are expected to use existing guidance and information to inform their best professional judgement in issuing/reissuing major permits to facilities subject to the requirements of section 316 (b).

Contact: Ruby Cooper Ford; (202-564-0757); ford.ruby@epa.gov

Copies Available: See contact or Web address.

Web Address: www.epa.gov/npdes

Clarifications Regarding Toxicity Reduction Evaluations and Toxicity Identification Evaluations in the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Program (May 2001)

This document provides clarification on the terms Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE) and Toxicity Identification Evaluation (TIE), explains how these tools are used to control whole effluent toxicity (WET), and reiterates guidance on when and under what circumstances a permittee should conduct TRE or TIE activities. In addition, the document addresses several technical topics relevant to the TRE/TIE process.

Contact: Laura Phillips (202-564-0741); phillips.laura@epa.gov

Copies Available: See contact or web address.

Website: www.epa.gov/npdes (when issued)

Menu of BMPs for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (May 2001)

EPA has developed a menu of best management practices (BMPs) applicable to municipal separate storm sewer systems. The BMPs address each of the minimum measures for municipal storm water management programs listed in the December 8, 1999 storm water Phase II rule.

Contact: Wendy Bell; (202-564-0746); bell.wendy@epa.gov

Copies Available: See Web address

Web Address: www.epa.gov/npdes

Guidance On Implementing The Water Quality-Based Provisions in the Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Control Policy (July 31, 2001)

EPA will publish a Final Guidance On Implementing The Water Quality-based Provisions in the CSO Control Policy. The guidance will address questions raised since the publication of the CSO Control Policy in 1994 on integrating the long-term control plan (LTCP) development process with the water quality standards review. As outlined in the guidance, EPA will continue to implement the CSO Control Policy through its existing statutory and regulatory authorities. The guidance will not impose legally binding requirements or substitute for Clean Water Act (CWA) requirements, EPA's regulations, or the obligations imposed by consent decrees or enforcement orders.

Contact: Timothy Dwyer; (202-564-0717); dwyer.tim@epa.gov

Copies Available: July 31, 2001

Web Address: www.epa.gov/npdes (when issued)

Report to Congress on the Implementation and Enforcement of the Combined Sewer Overflow Control Policy (September 1, 2001)

On December 21, 2000, Public Law 106-554 was enacted; it included Section 112, Wet Weather

Water Quality which amended Clean Water Act section 402 to include the requirement:
Not later than September 1, 2001, the Administrator shall transmit to Congress a report on the progress made by the Environmental Protection Agency, States and municipalities in implementing and enforcing the CSO Control Policy. (*Section 402(q)(3) of the Clean Water Act*)

Contact: Timothy Dwyer; (202-564-0717); dwyer.tim@epa.gov

Copies Available: September 1, 2001

Web Address: www.epa.gov/npdes (when issued)

Guidance on Measurable Goals (October 2001)

EPA will prepare and issue a guidance document to assist municipal separate storm sewer systems in the development of measurable goals to assist in the design, as well as the assessment of implementation of the minimum measures for Phase II. The scheduled completion date is October 2001.

Contact: Wendy Bell; (202-564-0746); bell.wendy@epa.gov

Copies Available: See Web address

Web Address: www.epa.gov/owm (when issued)

Local Limits Guidance Manual (Fall 2001)

This will update the existing pretreatment guidance which is over 10 years old. The manual will focus on the general approach for development, re-evaluation, and update of local limits based on the Maximum Allowable Headworks Loading (MAHL) method. Further, it will include data that may facilitate the process, as well as options for resolving challenges commonly encountered. This manual is not intended to preclude discussions between local and oversight agencies to resolve site-specific issues where they arise. The manual will provide examples of reasonable approaches for applying best professional judgement (BPJ), and therefore, may be of benefit when making site-specific BPJ decisions.

Contact: Jeff Smith; (202-564-0652); smith.jeff@epa.gov

Copies Available: Fall 2001

Web Address: www.epa.gov/npdes (when issued)

Guidance for Electronic NPDES Application Forms (Fall 2001)

To modernize the NPDES permit application process, EPA will make available electronic application software and associated operating guidance by the Fall of 2001. Use of these forms will facilitate quick and easy completion of permit data.

Contact: David Hair (202-564-0588); hair.david@epa.gov

Copies Available: See contact

Web Address: www.epa.gov/npdes (when issued)

CWSRF Guide to Integrated Priority Setting Systems

EPA is issuing a guide to help states develop integrated priority setting systems (IPPSs) that consider the water quality benefits of wastewater, nonpoint source and estuary management projects. The Guide elaborates the steps needed to develop IPPSs, sources of water quality information and the ranking systems used by various state CWSRF programs.

Applicability: States

Contact: Stephanie von Feck, 202-564-0609 or Cleora Scott 202-564-0687

Copies Available: by Internet (srfinfo.group@epa.gov), by mail from EPA Office of Wastewater Management, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (4204M), Washington, DC 20460, and by phone at (202) 564-0752

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/owm>

SRF Transfer and Cross-Collateralization Guidance

Provides a description of the requirements for states that transfer funds between the Clean Water and Drinking Water SRF programs. It also describes requirements for states that wish to Cross-Collateralize, or enhance bond security, with the Clean Water and Drinking Water SRF program.

Applicability: States, Regions

Contact: Sheila Platt (202) 564-0686

Copies Available: by mail from EPA Office of Wastewater Management, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (4204M), Washington, DC 20460, and by phone at (202) 564-0752

Web Address: Not available

Policy on Fees Charged by States to Recipients of Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program Assistance

Establishes EPA policy regarding the use of fees that states charge on clean water state revolving fund loans and include as principal in loans and the use of fees that states charge on loans but do not include as principal in loans.

Applicability: States, Regions

Contact: Kit Farber, 202-564-0601, farber.kit@epa.gov

Copies Available: by mail from EPA Office of Wastewater Management, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (4204M), Washington, DC 20460, and by phone at (202) 564-0752

Web Address: Not available

**** Guidance on the Privatization of Federally Funded Wastewater Treatment Works***

The guidance (1) serves as an informational resource for local governments and private companies interested in the privatization process, (2) discusses the financial and non-financial factors influencing the privatization decision, and (3) describes the information local governments must submit for EPA's review and approval of their proposed privatization arrangements.

Applicability: Regions, Grantees

Contact: Haig Farmer, 202-564-0592, farmer.haig@epa.gov

Copies Available: By Internet and from NCEPI (800-490-9198) Ask for Document EPA-832-B-00-002.

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/owm/prigud.htm>

FY 2001 STAG Guidelines

Provides information and guidelines on how the Agency will award and administer grants for the 246 special projects and programs (United States-Mexico Border program and the Alaska Rural and Native Villages program) included in the in the State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG) Account of the Agency's FY 2001 Appropriations Act and the seven special projects added to the STAG

account by the FY 2001 Consolidated Appropriations Act.

Applicability: Regions, States, grant applicants

Contact: Larry McGee, 202-564-0619, mcgee.larry@epa.gov

Copies Available: EPA distributes copies to all who can use the document, including all EPA Regional Offices, all state agencies and all potentially eligible grant applicants.

Web Address: www.epa.gov/owm/mab/owm0316.pdf.

Fiscal Year 2001 National Managing and Reporting Guidance for CWA 104(g)(1) Operator Technical Assistance Grants

The guidance provides, to every Region, instructions for disbursing their allotments of 104(g)(1) grant funds to States and State Training Centers. The primary use of Section 104 (g)(1) funds is to provide on-site technical assistance for operators and municipal employees involved in the operation, maintenance, and management of publicly-owned treatment works. States may also propose using these funds to promote energy/water use efficiency and technical assistance on sewer system maintenance to control infiltration and inflow and sanitary sewer overflows. The program will assist approximately 713 facilities in fiscal year 2001, the table below represents the regional breakdown. FY 2001

Region	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	TOTAL
# of facilities	66	27	75	80	135	76	36	67	21	130	713

Applicability: Regions

Contact: Curt Baranowski, 202-564-0636; baranowski.curt@epa.gov

Copies Available: Contact Curt Baranowski

Web Address: www.epa.gov/owm/tomm.htm

Guidance for Infrastructure Grants Under Long Island Sound Restoration Act

EPA is developing guidelines, policies, and procedures for implementing the infrastructure grants portion of Title IV of the Estuaries and Clean Waters Act of 2000 (PL 106-457) which enacts the Long Island Sound Restoration Act. The goal is to develop the guidelines by 9/30/01. PL 106-457 authorizes \$40 million per year for fiscal years 2001 through 2005. The Long Island Sound office, through Regions I and II, has issued non-infrastructure grants using section 119 as authority for several years, but no infrastructure grants have been issued under this program. Hence, these new guidelines are required for managing the infrastructure grants likely to be issued in future.

Applicability: Regions I and II, States- NY and CT.

Contact: Gajindar Singh, 202-564-0634, singh.gajindar@epa.gov

Web Address: Not available.

Decentralized Wastewater Treatment Strategy

EPA will promote the use, where appropriate, of centralized management of decentralized wastewater systems. This initiative will include financial and technical support of state, tribal, and decentralized wastewater programs so that they are consistently managed and administered. EPA will, together with regions, states and other stakeholders, develop voluntary national standards for

onsite management programs that address siting, performance, design, and maintenance of these systems. EPA will also fund projects that demonstrate how to overcome barriers to decentralized sewage management. In addition, guidance will be published on the appropriate use of state loan funds to support these systems.

Applicability: Regions, States, Tribes

Contact: Joyce Hudson, 202-564-0657, hudson.joyce@epa.gov

Copies Available: Contact Joyce Hudson

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/OWM/decent/decent.htm>

Development, Selection, and Pilot Demonstration of Preliminary Environmental Indicators for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund Loan Program

Provides information and guidance on how environmental indicators are used in water programs throughout the country, how environmental indicators should be developed to document environmental benefits of the CWSRF and what some proposed indicators could be.

Applicability: Regions, States

Contact: Richard Derringer, 202-564-0613, derringer.richard@epa.gov or Cliff Yee, 202-564-0598, yee.clifford@epa.gov

Copies Available: EPA distributes copies to all who can use the document, including all EPA Regional Offices and all state agencies responsible for the management of the CWSRF program.

Web Address: Not Available

Fiscal Fund Management of the State Revolving Fund A Manual

Provides information and guidance on managing the fiscal aspects of Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds. Topics include adjusting loan terms, assessing investment returns, efficient fund utilization, long term planning, sustainable funding levels, leveraging decisions and the impact of set-asides and capitalization transfers on the fund. Analytical tools and techniques, including key financial measures, for assessing the fiscal health of a fund are included as an appendix.

Applicability: States, Regions

Contact: Cliff Yee, 202-564-0598, yee.clifford@epa.gov

Copies Available: EPA distributes copies to all who can use the document, including all EPA Regional Offices and all state agencies responsible for the management of the SRF programs.

Web Address: Not available

New SRF Financial Planning Model

EPA issued its new SRF Financial Planning Model (FPM) in January 2001. The model will enable users to better understand the effect of different program structures and program changes on the ability of SRFs to provide financial assistance now and in the future. Because the new model uses aggregates/averages rather than detailed project-by-project data, users can quickly and easily determine the amount of financial assistance an SRF can provide, based on current and projected program parameters, and then modify these parameters/assumptions to determine the impact of changes on the amount of projected financial assistance an SRF can provide over time.

In March 2001, a Users Guide was issued to provide a detailed explanation and examples on how to use the new model. In addition, training sessions have been scheduled at all regional offices. Each year, the model will be updated to incorporate the latest NIMS data (both Clean Water and Drinking Water), and to make other enhancements to the model based on user feedback. Future versions of the FPM will be released at the CIFA SRF Conference.

Applicability : Headquarters, Regions, and States

Contact: Kit Farber 202-564-0601; Farber.Kit@EPA.gov

Copies Available: Kit Farber

Web Address: Not available

Guidance for the year 2001 National Wastewater Management Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Excellence Awards Program

EPA annually recognizes industrial organizations and municipalities for demonstrated outstanding and innovative technological achievements in waste treatment and pollution abatement programs. The guidance, issued in January 2001, provides the national award eligibility requirements, instructions for the regional/state nomination/award procedure and how to apply for the recognition award.

Applicability: Regions, municipalities, industrial organizations

Contact: Maria E. Campbell, 202-564-0628, campbell.maria@epa.gov.

Copies Available: EPA regions distribute copies to State water pollution control facilities, or interested parties may contact Maria Campbell, EPA, Office of Wastewater Management, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (4204), Washington, DC 20460, for regional contact information.

Web Address: Not available.

Alternative Water Sources Grant Guidance

Title VII of the Estuaries and Clean Waters Act of 2000 establishes an EPA grant program in Section 220 of the Clean Water Act for alternative water source projects to meet critical water needs. Eligible projects provide municipal, industrial, or agricultural water supplies by conserving, managing, reclaiming, or reusing water or wastewater. Guidance scheduled for completion in FY 2001.

Applicability: States, interstate and intrastate water development agencies, local governments, private utilities, and non-profit agencies.

Contact: John Flowers, 202-564-0624, flowers.john@epa.gov

Copies Available: TBA

Web Address: TBA

Sewer Overflow Grant Guidance

Provides EPA Regional Offices and States with guidance and direction on awarding and managing grants established in Section 221 of the Clean Water Act for planning, design, and construction of treatment works to intercept, transport, control or treat combined sewer overflows (CSO) and sanitary sewer overflows (SSO) established . Guidance is scheduled for completion by September 30, 2001, and will focus on the awarding, management, and coordination of these grants with the State Revolving Fund loan program.

Applicability: Regions and States

Contacts: Leonard Fitch, 202-564-0656, Fitch.Leonard@epa.gov

Copies Available: EPA will distribute copies to all who can use the document, including all EPA Regional Offices and all state agencies responsible for the management of the SRF programs.

Web Address: Not Available

Biosolids Strategy

The goal of the Biosolids Management Strategy is to have an effective national biosolids management program. This goal is to be achieved through numerous coordinated activities including: developing sound, scientifically defensible regulations governing the use and disposal of biosolids; developing a database management system to store and analyze biosolids information; recognizing outstanding achievements through the annual awards program; conducting surveys of biosolids quality; and working with the National Biosolids Partnership to develop and implement environmental management systems (EMS) for biosolids.

Applicability: Regions, States

Contact: John Walker, 202-564-0654, walker.john@epa.gov

Copies Available: Contact John Walker

Web Address: Not available

Guidance on the Use of Biosolids Awards Program

January 2001. EPA annually recognizes municipalities and institutions which operate biosolids facilities, develop technologies, conduct research, and promote public acceptance of biosolids. This guidance defines how to prepare and submit applications for the awards.

Applicability: States, Regions, municipalities

Contact: John Walker (202) 564-0654

Web Address: Not available

Guidance on Technologies Available for Wastewater, Storm water and Biosolids Treatment

EPA has developed, and will continue to develop, a series of fact sheets on technologies available. The goal is to have approximately 180 fact sheets completed by the end of FY 2002. The FY 2001 fact sheets focus on conventional and innovative technologies including some wet weather technologies. Completed fact sheets are posted on the OWM web site.

Applicability: States, Regions, municipalities, consulting engineers

Contact: Jim Wheeler, (202) 564-0662

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/owm/muni.htm>

Guidance for POTWs on Radioactivity in Biosolids

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission worked with EPA through a subcommittee of the Interagency Steering Committee on Radiation Standards (ISCORS) to develop guidance on radioactivity in biosolids. Interim guidance was issued in June 1999.

Applicability: States, Regions, municipalities

Contact: Robert Bastian, (202) 564-00653

Web Address: Not available

Decentralized Wastewater Management Guidance Manual

This is a manual for management of individual wastewater treatment (Onsite systems) and small wastewater treatment systems. The goal of the guidance is to stimulate effective management of these systems in such a manner that it will become a natural and normal state of the art.

Applicability: States, Regions

Contact: Joyce Hudson (202) 564-0657

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/OWM/decent/decent.htm>

★ *V. Guidance Under Development and Planned Through FY 2002/2003*

Technical Support Document for Water Quality-Based Toxics Control (FY 2002)

This document will provide technical guidance for assessing and regulating the discharge of toxic pollutants to waters of the United States. It will provide procedures for determining when an effluent limitation for a toxic pollutant is needed and how to calculate such limits. These procedures are particularly important where there is no TMDL established for a receiving water. Some updates to the NPDES permitting procedures described in the guidance and an electronic tool that allows permit writers to perform these procedures are planned for FY 2002.

Contact: Marcus Zobrist (202-564-8311); zobrist.marcus@epa.gov or Gregory Currey (202-564-0633); currey.gregory@epa.gov

Copies Available: FY 2002

Website: www.epa.gov/npdes

Draft Policy on the Determination of Reasonable Potential for Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) (FY 2002/2003)

This draft will provide EPA policy on how to determine whether a point source discharge will "cause, have the reasonable potential to cause or contribute" to an excursion of numeric whole effluent toxicity criteria or a narrative "no toxics in toxic amounts" criterion in a receiving water. It will include a step-by-step discussion of the decisions and technical issues permit writers must consider when making this WET "reasonable potential" determination, especially when the available valid WET test data are limited.

Contact: Laura Phillips (202-564-0741); phillips.laura@epa.gov

Copies Available: FY 2002/2003

Website: www.epa.gov/npdes

FY 2003 STAG Guidelines

Will provide information and guidelines on how the Agency will award and administer grants for the special and programs included in the State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG) Account of the Agency's FY 2003 Appropriations Act.

Applicability: Regions, States, grant applicants

Contact: Larry McGee, 202-564-0619, mcgee.larry@epa.gov

Copies Available: Guidelines will be developed and issued approximately 90 days after

enactment of the Agency's FY 2003 Appropriations Act.

Web Address: Not available

Fiscal Year 2003 National Managing and Reporting Guidance for CWA 104(g)(1) Operator Technical Assistance Grants

The guidance provides, to every Region, instructions for disbursing their allotments of 104(g)(1) grant funds to States and State Training Centers. The primary use of Section 104 (g)(1) funds is to provide on-site technical assistance for operators and municipal employees involved in the operation, maintenance, and management of publicly-owned treatment works. States may also propose using these funds to promote energy/water use efficiency and technical assistance on sewer system maintenance to control infiltration and inflow and sanitary sewer overflows. The number of facilities to be assisted in fiscal year 2003 is to be determined, based on program priorities and Regional and state resources.

Applicability: Regions

Contact: Curt Baranowski, 202-564-0636; baranowski.curt@epa.gov

Copies Available: Contact Curt Baranowski

Web Address: Not available

Guidance for the year 2003 National Wastewater Management Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Excellence Awards Program

EPA annually recognizes industrial organizations and municipalities for demonstrated outstanding and innovative technological achievements in waste treatment and pollution abatement programs. The guidance, to be issued in January 2003, provides the national award eligibility requirements, instructions for the regional/state nomination/award procedure and how to apply for the recognition award.

Applicability: Regions, municipalities, industrial organizations

Contact: Maria E. Campbell, 202-564-0628, campbell.maria@epa.gov.

Copies Available: EPA regions distribute copies to State water pollution control facilities, or interested parties may contact Maria Campbell, epa, Office of Wastewater Management, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (4204), Washington, DC 20460, for regional contact information.

Web Address: Not available.

Guidance on the Use of Biosolids Awards Program

January 2003. EPA annually recognizes municipalities and institutions which operate biosolids facilities, develop technologies, conduct research, and promote public acceptance of biosolids. This guidance defines how to prepare and submit applications for the awards.

Applicability: States, Regions, municipalities

Contact: John Walker (202) 564-0654

Copies Available: John Walker (202) 564-0654

Web Address: <http://www.epa.gov/owm>

* These strategies and guidances are considered *core*, and the Regional Administrator must consult with the Assistant Administrator for Water before agreeing to a work plan with a State that differs significantly from these guidances and strategies.

